FBIS DAILY REPORT

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Vol III No 166 27 August 1986

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PRAVDA REPORTS 25 AUG PRESS CONFERENCE

PM26112 Moscow Pravda in Russian 26 Aug 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Moscow Press Conference"]

[Text] A press conference was held at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center on 25 August for Soviet and foreign journalists in connection with the statement made on Soviet television on 18 August by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. It was conducted by Yu. M. Vorontsov, USSR first deputy foreign minister; Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev, chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister; and G.I. Gerasimov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Administration.

Yu. M. Vorontsov, who spoke at the press conference, said: M.S. Gorbachev's statement on important issues of disarmament, above all on one of the key problems of international policy -- that of ending nuclear tests, and the decision to extend the unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions until 1 January 1987 are now at the center of attention in the world.

The vast majority of governments, political and public figures, and ordinary people in all countries are coming out resolutely in favor of an immediate end to nuclear tests. They are opposed only by a small, but stubborn and influential, group of individuals in the United States who advocate that nuclear explosions continue to shake our planet.

A marked nervousness now prevails in Washington, and contradictory arguments are being put forward in favor of the United States continuing its nuclear explosions. [Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 26 August carries a similar report that adds the following here: Thus White House Chief of Staff D. Regan declares that the United States is supposedly not against a treaty on a general and complete nuclear weapon test ban, but cannot accept this without a proper system of verification. Other spokesmen for the U.S. President reject the verification thesis and say frankly that the United States needs tests in order to improve its nuclear weapons. People in Washington are also confused in their arguments about who is "overtaking" whom in the nuclear arms sphere.]

In essence the United States has no reasonable explanations of why it does not want to join in the Soviet moratorium, unless, of course, you admit that the United States needs nuclear explosions exclusively in order to continue the nuclear arms race in a vain attempt to achieve military superiority. [IZVESTIYA adds: And of course, verification is not holding things up. The Soviet Union has proposed, basically, any forms of verification, even those that are in our view superfluous, but the United States, all the same, will not accept an end to nuclear tests. As is now clear to everyone, in this connection Washington is not motivated by its concern about verification, but by the attempt to provide a cover for continuing work to create new forms and types of nuclear weapons. One such aim, since recently, is the preparation for the use of the energy of a nuclear explosion in implementing the "star wars" program.

I can say in all seriousness that for the Soviet Union the problem of verification of an end to nuclear tests does not exist. This is plain to see, if only from the example of the joint Soviet-American experiment in verification carried out by scientists in the Semipalatinsk region. The agreement to conduct the experiment was supported by the Soviet Government, which expressed readiness to do everything to promote its implementation on our territory. [paragraph continues]

The U.S. Administration has yet to display a similar readiness regarding the holding in parallel of a similar experiment in verification on American territory.

[The Soviet Union places a high value on the joint activity of the heads of state and government of the six states (the "Delhi Six") -- Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden, and Tanzania -- in favor of the quick ending of nuclear explosions. We have already expressed our readiness to take up the proposal of the "Delhi Six" on assistance in the verification of an end to nuclear tests, including on-site inspections, provided, naturally, that it is accepted by the other side too. We have also expressed a positive attitude toward the proposal to organize a meeting of experts from those six countries with Soviet and American experts, as was mentioned in yesterday's reply from M.S. Gorbachev to the heads of state and government of the six countries.]

All the grounds now exist, through a Soviet-American moratorium and then an agreement or treaty, to halt once and for all the "nuclear fever" on earth. After all, the moratorium question should not be considered in isolation, solely as a measure aimed at ending nuclear explosions, but in the context of the general problem of delivering mankind from nuclear weapons, as a kind of prologue to total nuclear disarmament. The ending of nuclear explosions could, figuratively speaking, be one of the threads that could be pulled in order to begin unraveling the whole complicated knot of the nuclear disarmament problem. If there are no such explosions, new nuclear weapons will not be created, and major limitations will be created for the existing weapons. That will apply equally to the United States and the USSR. One would like to hope that ultimately common sense will prevail all the same in Washington, and that the historic opportunity along the path to ending the arms race will not be wasted.

We repeat that the attainment of an agreement with the United States on ending nuclear tests with full verification, including on-site inspections, is possible, and in the near future. Such an agreement could be signed at a Soviet-American summit meeting which, as M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has stated repeatedly, is possible provided that an appropriate political atmosphere is created and the fruitfulness of the meeting is ensured.

Answers were also given to numerous questions from journalists.

Question, Answer Session

PM271116 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Aug 86 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Ending Nuclear Tests. Press Conference in Moscow:]

[Text] As has already been reported, a press conference in connection with CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev's 18 August statement on Soviet television was held for Soviet and foreign journalists on 25 August at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center. It was conducted by Yu. M. Vorontsov, USSR first deputy foreign minister; Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev, chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister; and G.I. Gerasimov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Directorate.

Answers were given to numerous questions from journalists.

Question: In speaking of M.S. Gorbachev's 18 August statement, both American officials and a number of U.S. press organs are now trying to reduce the matter to a correspondence between leaders, and some fragmentary leaks and claims are appearing that R. Reagan's last message to M.S. Gorbachev contains constructive proposals and solutions to a number of disarmament questions, including the question of ending nuclear weapon tests. What can you say about this?

Answer: The correspondence between the two leaders is confidential in nature, and we cannot reveal its content here.

But it should be said that since M.S. Gorbachev's statement, Washington has indeed begun to use "targeted leaks" to try to divert the American Public and also the world public away from the question raised in the statement of the U.S. subscribing to the moratorium on all nuclear explosions and without delay concluding an agreement to end them. In addition, these leaks are clearly designed to mislead people and outwardly present Washington's position in a more favorable guise and to hint at its constructive nature, when it does not, in fact, exist. Since the leaks come from U.S. officials, it is difficult for people in this connection to get to the bottom of the real state of affairs regarding very important questions of profound interest not only to the USSR and the United States but also to the entire world public.

If you want to know my opinion, said Yu.M. Vorontsov, who was replying to this question, I personally think that in this case it is, perhaps, better not to play with "leaks" but to inform the world public of the actual contents of the letters exchanged by M.S. Gorbachev and R. Reagan, so that people would be able to judge for themselves the true nature of this correspondence. But, of course, it is not up to you and me to solve this question. It is up to the two countries' leaders themselves to reveal or not to reveal the substance of their correspondence.

Question: Could you explian what M.S. Gorbachev meant when he declared that the USSR will find an answer that will make the "star wars: program worthless?

Answer: When people speak of U.S. preparations for "star wars," they mean its preparations to deploy a multiechelon system for the ABM defense of U.S. territory and to create [sozdaniye] and deploy space-strike arms.

The purpose of the U.S. preparations for "star wars" is to make the USSR's strategic nuclear forces worthless, that is, to disarm the Soviet Union and thereby enable the United States to constantly threaten the Soviet Union with a massive nuclear strike.

There are two sides to the U.S. implementation of the program to deploy a multiechelon ABM system and space-strike arms. On the political plane it undermines the existing equilibrium and treaties, leads the arms limitation talks into an impasse, undermines faith in their reality, creates strategic chaos instead of stability, and sharply increases the danger of nuclear war.

On the purely military plane this program undermines the strategic equilibrium that exists today.

If the United States continues work on implementing the "star wars" plans, the USSR will have to take corresponding measures. And, if necessary, we will quickly find a response -- and it will not be what the United States expects. It will be a response that will make the "star wars" program worthless. M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, clearly declared this.

As a military specialist, S.F. Akhromeyev, who was replying to this question, pointed out, I can say with good reason that the United States does not have a monopoly on scientific and technical progress in military matters. The development of science and technology in the military-technical sphere has reached such a level that the eternal struggle between "the sword and the shield," between defensive and offensive means, is being resolved today in not one but many directions. Reliable means of counteraction can be found to every action.

The USSR could undertake an identical response to U.S. actions to undermine equilibrium by creating [sozdaniye] an ABM defense for the country and space-strike arms. The USSR is capable of doing this.

It is also possible to improve strategic offensive arms to such an extent as to make the program for ABM defense of U.S. territory fabulously expensive and extremely difficult to implement.

Other responses that will make the "star wars" program worthless are also possible.

Question: A considerable number of reports have currently been appearing in the West claiming that final agreement has already been reached on the timing of a new summit meeting. What can you say on this?

Answer: Yes, there are such reports. Some people in the United States are even citing allegedly precise dates for such a meeting. What can be said on this?

As yet there is no agreement on a specific date for a new meeting.

The Soviet approach to a summit meeting is well-known. We are for such a meeting, but it must obligatorily culminate in substantial accords in the field of disarmament. There is no point in holding a fruitless meeting. This, our well-known position, remains unchanged.

Question: Washington says that the USSR can afford a long moratorium on nuclear tests because it has overtaken the United States by a long way in this sphere. Is this so?

Answer: Such statements by Washington do not correspond to reality. The facts indicate that the United States is the leader in terms of the number of nuclear explosions. It has carried out more nuclear explosions than all the nuclear powers put together. The United States has carried out roughly one-third more nuclear explosions than the Soviet Union.

It has done so in each individual environment (in the atmosphere, under ground, and under water). To take just the past 2 years: In 1984 the sides carried out a roughly equal number of nuclear weapon tests; in 1985 the United States conducted approximately 20 explosions, and the USSR -- before the introduction of the moratorium -- 9. During the year of the Soviet moratorium the United States has exploded 18 nuclear devices. These are the facts. Where, then, is the lag the United States speaks of? Those who speak of this want the United States to retain the possibility of improving and creating [sozdaniye] new kinds of nuclear weapons and, thus, continuing the arms race.

Answers were also given to other questions from journalists.

BORIN VIEWS APPROACHES TO NUCLEAR TEST BAN

LD252227 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 25 Aug 86

[Nikolay Borin commentary]

[Text] When London expressed its regret over the Soviet commitment to the moratorium it became clear why Mikhail Gorbachev had said it had not been easy to take the decision on extending it once again. One can easily understand these words from the military point of view, but the reaction of Washington and London shows that Moscow's self-imposed ban had also clashed with the fundamental political thinking of those who rule America and Britain today. To them, the long silence at Soviet nuclear test sites is highly annoying for it leaves them with no argument but to claim that the world is again faced with a Soviet propaganda ploy. However, the truth is that banning nuclear tests is the simplest and most effective first step towards curbing the nuclear arms race.

Indeed, significantly, nobody in the Reagan administration or in Whitehall ventures to argue with that and the more the Soviet measure gathers worldwide support, the more political leaders in Wahsington and London express their regret about it. Actually, this is regret that there is another approach, another way of thinking which refuses to acceept force as the main guarantee of security today. The character of modern weapons, primarily nuclear weapons, demands a new political philosophy and new principles of ensuring peace. For Washington, the prime consideration appears to be that nuclear tests are essential in developing practically any new nuclear weapons systems, whether these be programs for modernizing warheads for intercontinental missiles or developing vital components of cruise missiles or air bombs.

Since the Soviet moratorium came into effect over a year ago, various types of tests have been carried out in Nevada. They include the MX, Trident, Midgetman, and star wars programs. Now companies in the American war industry are speaking of nuclear weapons of the third generation, which are much more destructive but are euphemistically termed peacekeepers. Such deception is practiced by high-ranking American politicians, military-industrial tycoons, and generals. The Soviet side, however has far-reaching reasons to regard these declarations by champions of the peace through strength idea as mere propaganda. Under this cover one can easily discern a bid to secure a decisive military edge over the Soviet Union and its allies. If the Governments of the United States and Britain really want effective arms control, they should be quick to appreciate the importance of the Soviet initiative. And if President Reagan really does adhere to his widely proclaimed goal of making nuclear weapons both impotent and obsolete, he now has a wonderful chance to show it. All he needs is to sign an agreement banning nuclear tests which could be done this year at a Soviet-American summit. Britain in particular, as an active contributor to earlier progress in nuclear test limitation today, has an excellent opportunity to reassert its role in world affairs and to win international acclaim by joining in the efforts to achieve a comprehensive nuclear test ban and thereby help reduce the threat of nuclear war.

ARTICLE DISCUSSES MUTUAL BENEFITS OF TEST BAN

AU251556 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 22 Aug 86 p 7

[Article by Spartak Beglov, APN political observer, "specially for RABOTHICHESKO DELO": "Is What Is Good for the Soviet Union Bad for the United States?"]
[Text] When he announced the new extension of the unilateral Soviet moratorium on nuclear tests until 1 January 1987, Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, called upon the U.S. Administration to show its readiness to sign at an early date a nuclear test ban agreement.

At the same time, it becomes clear from the Soviet leader's declaration that he is taking fully into account the fact that forces that do not want to disarm at all are actively at work in the United States. All the same, Moscow is not giving up the efforts to influence Washington by the force of arguments and reason. Moscow stresses that no decisions of a military nature can be justified from the viewpoint of U.S. security, and voices the hope that realism will prevail in the U.S. assessments and actions.

Many facts about U.S. policy prove how necessary and topical this appeal is. Particular alarm -- not only on the Soviet side, but also among many worried Americans -- is being raised by the obviously falsified assessments the U.S. Administration persists in using as grounds for the decisions in its military and foreign policy strategy. A fresh example is the U.S. President's recent radio address on 16 August. On this occasion he sharply criticized the version of the bill for the 1987 military budget approved by the U.S. House of Representatives. Let us recall that the matter at issue was those points in the bill that preserve the ban on the testing of antisatellite weapons, deny funds for the production of binary gases, freeze expenditure on the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), block the President's attempts to undermine SALT II, and propose a halt to all nuclear tests with a force exceeding 1 kiloton.

It is too little to say that the President's address -- in striking contrast to Mikhail Gorbachev's declaration -- is permeated with the confrontational approach, according to which every argument in favor of continuing the senseless arms race is built on the premise that "what is good for the USSR is bad for the United States."

Still worse is the fact that, in order to provide grounds for the official policy, directed at destroying the foundations of society and arms control, a concentrated blend of insinuations and fabrications is being utilized regarding the Soviet Union's acts and intentions. "The Soviet Union," the aforementioned address asserts, "has had antimissile weapons at its disposal for a long time." However, the truth is that several years ago the USSR proposed not only banning, but even destroying the antimissile systems, and then declared a unilateral moratorium on their testing and deployment. According to the version put out by the U.S. President, the USSR "has been working for decades on its strategic defense and is making advances to the detriment of the United States." But those in the United States who are acquainted with the issue are well aware that the Soviet Union has never conducted any work in the field of "strategic defense," as it is conceived in the United States, and has developed no program for the design of space-based strike weapons.

In its attempts to discredit the idea of the nuclear test moratorium, Washington is resorting to the version that as far back as 1958, when the United States agreed to a similar moratorium, "the Russians unilaterally contravened it." But the truth of the matter is this. According to the evidence of U.S. Vice Admiral Eugene Carroll, published in THE NEW YORK TIMES on 7 August 1985: "The administration claims that Moscow is supposed to have contravened the last (joint) nuclear test moratorium in 1961. This is a lie. At that time no moratorium was in existence. In December 1959, President Eisenhower suspended the moratorium of 1958 when he announced that America considered itself within its rights to resume testing." Just as "plausible" are the assertions (repeated once again by the President) that the USSR had allegedly achieved a great superiority over the United States, by "suddenly" resuming testing in September 1961. Here is what the U.S. vice admiral has to say on this issue: "This is also a lie. From 1 September 1961 until the cessation of testing in the atmosphere on 5 August 1963, the United States was ahead of the USSR by a ratio of 2:1."

Despite all this, the President accused the congressmen of "irresponsibility" regarding the country's national defense. [paragraph continues]

If such actions are permitted in the eyes of the administration regarding the "ambassadors of the people" in the United States, it is not hard to imagine the whole complexity of the position of the Soviet representatives when the American side greets them at the negotiations with the wall of falsehood.

In Geneva in November 1985, it seemed that the U.S. leadership was on the verge of acknowledging the truth that there can be no victors either in a nuclear war or in the arms race. But when the moment came for this idea to be given concrete form, the inertia of the old way of thinking and acting gained the upper hand. In its abandonment of SALT II, as well as in its adherence to the SDI program and its continuation of nuclear testing, the White House demonstrates how strong the illusion is among certain circles that the worse it is for the Soviet Union, the better it is for America.

The issue of halting of nuclear testing has become a starting point for further improving international security. The same is true for the prospect of the new Soviet-U.S. summit meeting. The agreement to ban these tests might turn out to be the chief result of this summit. Not only the Soviet Union, but also a substantial, most authoritative, section of world public opinion is giving Washington to understand that it cannot guarantee its own security while it ignores the security of the other states and peoples. What is good for the Soviet Union and the rest of the world is also good for the United States.

GERASIMOV ASSAILS U.S. 'NUCLEAR FANATICISM'

LD262103 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 26 Aug 86

[Gennadiy Gerasimov commentary; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Hello, comrades! The United States had a number of objections to the Soviet moratorium: that the Soviet Union is not agreeable to monitoring and vertification; that monitoring and verification are technically impossible; and that America would somehow find itself in a worse situation; and several other arguments that on the surface seem difficult but in essence have one common feature -- they are all far-fetched.

These arguments are stagnant, almost lifeless. From time to time they mutter about monitoring, then straightaway they shut up because Soviet readiness and the technical feasability of it have removed the issue. Washington has been deprived of propaganda ammunition; they have nothing to object to. This is borne out by the notable fact that Larry Speakes, the White House spokesman, at his latest briefing refused to comment on journalists' questions on yesterday's news conference in Moscow.

Washington is now looking for fresh arguments and has thought up two. Speakes and others are talking about a long list of subjects for discussion and testing is just one of them. Speakes' method of solving one of the issues, among a number of others, is taken from Anderson's fairy-tale (?"Steel). In this tale, in order to find out where the princess disappears to at nights he chalked a cross on the gates of the house, but a magic dog noticed this and placed a cross on the gates of all the houses in the town. Anderson writes that this was a clever trick. But in our case, one cannot say that this is a particularly smart thing in the argument as to whether testing is just one small point on the agenda. It's a weak argument because the Soviet Union is not saying that a moratorium is an end in itself. And, as stated in the Mexican Declaration, this is a first step on the road to concluding a treaty on a complete test ban and an end to the production and deployment of all types of nuclear weapons, and space weapons as well.

They have also thought up some kind of philosophical argument, to the effect that armaments do not start wars, people do. This maxim is a dangerous simplification. Yes, people and politicians make the decisions, but they may find themselves under the influence, and even under the power, of technological fanaticism. And the signs of this in Washington are clear. All they can see there is testing and nothing else. The world may be left to perish, but long live testing! And "star wars" for the future!

Of course, the banal greediness of today's merchants of death plays a large part here. But together with this greediness, in tandem with it in the arms race, is technological fanaticism, too, if one defines fanaticism as being so carried away by the means that the objective is lost sight of. The arms race in itself whips up, stimulates and inspires. And so it turns out that although armaments do not start wars, the arms fanatics can have a fateful influence on the politician who makes the decisions.

At the meeting in Mexico Argentine President Raul Alfonsin said that the arms race has ceased to be a mere consequence of political tension between the two powers and has turned into being one of the main reasons for this tension. And an end to testing could be just the thing to break this wanton mutual-dependence. And another thing: A rejection of testing would not only place an obstacle in the way of the emergence of new and more refined types of nuclear weapons. Such a rejection would help shoots of trust to sprout forth.

Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou said -- also in Mexico --- that from the psychological point of view an end to testing would help to create the right atmosphere for overcoming the deadlock in the disarmament talks. The bold Soviet step reflects political realism, whereas the obstinate American "no" is nuclear fanaticism.

WEST ACCUSED OF 'UNCONSTRUCTIVE' MBFR STANCE

PM261156 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Aug 86 First Edition p 3

[Article by Colonel S. Vilkov and Lieutenant Colonel Yu. Borin: "Vienna" What Is Holding Up the Talks?"]

[Text] At the Budapest conference of the Political Consultative Committee the Warsaw Pact states once again put to the NATO states and to all European countries detailed proposals for the reduction of armed forces and conventional arms in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals. "In this sphere, too, we want progress -- joint and consistent progress -- toward lower and less dangerous levels of military confrontation," M.S. Gorbachev emphasized in his statement on Soviet television.

Those proposals constitute a weighty addition to the program advanced by the Soviet Union for the total elimination of nuclear and other kinds of weapons of mass destruction from the planet by the year 2000 and, at the same time, are of an independent nature. They make it possible to remove from the agenda the question posed by some people to the effect that the elimination of nuclear weapons from the continent will supposedly upset the equilibrium in favor of the socialist countries, which allegedly have superiority in terms of conventional weapons.

However, this problem is only being examined at the talks in Vienna. Moreover, it is being discussed there only in relation to a narrow region -- central Europe.

These talks have been going on for many years. But, so far, essentially no real results have been achieved. There is still no consensus even regarding to the material substance of the proposed agreement. This is not the socialist countries' fault. Contrary to the mandate of the Vienna talks adopted by the states of the North Atlantic alliance and the Warsaw Pact in 1973, the NATO countries are stubbornly striving to reduce the issues being examined in Vienna to a reduction and subsequent nonincrease in the number of troop personnel alone. They are deliberately leaving to one side the problem of reducing and limiting arms.

The arms buildup and talks on arms reduction are incompatible things. Nevertheless, the number of conventional arms in West European countries, including those participating in the Vienna talks, continues to grow year by year. According to a decision adopted by the NATO bloc's leading organs in December 1985, the West European member-countries of the Eurogroup alone will this year receive a sum total of 900 new tanks and armored cars, a large proportion of which will be Leopard 2 and Challenger tanks; 100 heavy field guns; 250 combat aircraft, including 180 of the Tornado and F-16 type; 1 aircraft carrier; 3 submarines; and a lot of other combat hardware. And as for U.S. troops and arms, with which it was proposed to begin the reductions within NATO, in 1987 it is planned not to reduce but, just the opposite, to increase the American Armed Forces. It is proposed to equip them with an additional 840 M1 Abrams tanks, 870 bradley infantry fighting vehicles, and more than 400 combat aircraft. Much of this will enter the arsenal of the American troops stationed in Europe.

All this is being done after the Warsaw Pact states submitted for consideration by the Vienna talks, on 20 February 1986, a draft agreement on an initial Soviet and U.S. reduction of ground forces and arms with a subsequent nonincrease in the levels of the sides' armed forces and arms and on associated measures in central Europe. First, that document developed, elaborated on, and added to the provisions of the Soviet proposal advanced in February 1985. Second, it took into account those elements in the position of the Western participants in the talks that seem acceptable. Third, it proposed compromise solutions to a number of important questions on which the disagreements between the sides are most profound. That draft agreement provides a realistic basis for achieving positive results in Vienna.

However, the Western countries, while apparently agreeing to the proposed scheme for reducing Soviet and American troops and to the subsequent nonincrease in the levels of armed forces and arms, have at the same time filled it with substance that generally calls in question the possibility of reaching an accord at the Vienna talks. The deliberately substitute farfetched questions of monitoring [kontrol] and verifying [proverka] an agreement that does not yet exist for the resolution of the urgent task of ending and limiting the conventional arms race and lowering the level of military confrontation. At the same time, the NATO representatives at the talks very freely manipulate the concept of monitoring [kontrol], divorcing it from the essence of the proposed draft document. They deliberately take monitoring [kontrol] measures to unrealistic and even absurd lengths, which are known to be unacceptable to the other side and lead to the unjustified disclosure of the socialist states' entire defense structure (right down to indicating the location of every battalion and individual barracks) and to serious interference in their internal affairs. Thus, whereas the proposal advanced by the West in April 1984 provided for a reduction in American and Soviet troops by 13,000 and 30,000 men respectively, for which it was proposed to conduct 18 on-site inspections [inspektsii] annually, the proposal advanced in December 1985 reduced the volumes of troops reductions to 5,000 and 11,500 men, while at the same time almost doubling the number of inspections [inspektsii]. One wonders: Is there any logic here at all?

There are also other aspects of the Western proposals that suggest that the United States and its NATO allies are seeking to achieve just one aim at the Vienna talks -- to bring under their control the entire military activity of the Warsaw Pact states' armed forces. Do the West's demand relating to extending verification [proverka] measures beyond the region of the reductions, including to a number of western military districts of the Soviet Union, really meet the requirement for the sides' commitments to be of equal value? All this is being done on the pretext that this territory "adjoins the region of reductions."

But why not, in that case, extend these measures also to the territory of all the NATO countries adjacent to the region of reduction? If you look at the situation from a strategic point of view, the question of U.S. territory also arises.

But, of course, the West's demands, which have been taken to manifestly absurd lengths, cannot fail to hold up the reaching of accords at the Vienna talks.

The Soviet Union and the other socialist countries propose very simple and perfectly effective verification [kontrol] and inspection [proverka] measures as the way out of the impasse created by the NATO countries. These measures include, in particular, national technical means of verification [kontrol], the exchange of lists of the units being reduced and withdrawn, mutual notification about the beginning and end of reductions, and the setting up by each side of several permanently operating centers to monitor [kontrol] the withdrawal of the troops being reduced. In addition, the socialist countries also propose other measures to monitor the future agreement.

The realistic proposals advanced by the socialist countries eloquently demonstrates who is really full of goodwill to erect a reliable barrier in the way of the race for conventional arms and armed forces in Europe for the first time since World War II, and who is stubbornly holding up this important process that is vitally necessary to all people. "Certain American politicians," M.S. Gorbachev said in his 18 August statement, "interpret the fact that we are participating in the talks as a result of the growth of U.S. military might and the elaboration of the SDI program. Building its policy on such false premises, the American Administration can in no way emerge onto the road of honest agreements and of improving the international climate. And yet, the realities of life will have to be reckoned with. There is no getting away from them."

If they really -- not verbally but actually -- advocate the relaxation of international tension and the strengthening of security in Europe, the United States and the other NATO countries must reconsider their ambitious and unconstructive stance with regard to reducing and limiting arms and to certain measures of verification [kontrol]. It is necessary, finally, to overcome the extremely dangerous trend toward the continues buildup of troops and arms, to renounce pretensions to securing military advantages under cover of the Vienna talks, and to be guided by the principle of equality and identical security.

U.S. USES ARMS TALKS TO 'PACIFY' PUBLIC

LD261905 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 26 Aug 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Aleksandr Zholkver]

[Text] What is Washington's reaction to the new peace initiative from Moscow? Initially, in the U.S. capital an attempt was made to call the Soviet Union's action "propaganda." But this argument, if it can be called such a thing, immediately showed itself to be untenable.

If the Soviet Union is engaged in such propaganda, why should the United States not follow its example and reply in kind, also halting nuclear tests?

It was sufficient to pose such a rhetorical question -- and many Western publicists and politicians were posing it last week -- and the answer would come of its own accord, and not in favor of the United States.

At last, in the past few days, fresh voices have been heard from Washington. As is claimed by a State Department representative, the point at issue has nothing to do with halting nuclear explosions, but reducing nuclear weapons.

But surely everyone realizes that in order to reverse the flywheel of the arms race, it first has to be halted. In this respect, I think THE WASHINGTON POST was right to call tests the ignition key to the whole arms race and to state: Once you turn off the key, the engine will die. But our country surely is not proposing to stop at that? Nothing of the sort.

The Soviet program for the stage-by-stage complete liquidation of nuclear arms by the year 2000 was presented in the January statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. Our specific proposals on this subject have long lain on the table of the Soviet-U.S. talks. But the fact is, some people in Washington are obviously trying to use the Geneva talks and the current meetings of the Soviet experts on disarmament problems only as a blind, to coin a phrase, to pacify the public.

True, it seems that more and more people in the West are becoming aware of these truly propagandistic maneuvers by Washington. In this connection, I think two readers' letters published the other day by London's THE GUARDIAN are noteworthy. They are written in the traditional English manner:

Sir, your letter contains some annoying mistakes.

And it goes on to cite such facts and arguments as: It was not the Soviet Union but the United States that carried out more nuclear tests. Their complete halting would be the most logical first step to stopping and then reversing the nuclear arms race. In this major question, the moral high ground the United States so often lays claim to, belongs to the USSR, the authors of the letters write. And they sign: sincerely, Dr Jeremy Legget, Verification Technology Information Center, and Lee Chadwick, Defense Information Group, Manchester.

Incidentally, the letters quite frankly point to the real reason for the U.S. refusal to halt nuclear tests. As THE GUARDIAN itself admits, they are being carried out in the United States during the development of third generation nuclear devices for star wars.

Indeed, the Pentagon has recently held routine tests of the ASAT antisatellite system. Incidentally, these tests were carried out in the face of a decision by the U.S. Congress, which refused to approve allocation to this version of star wars. The Pentagon is obviously much more inclined to listen to the wishes of the U.S. military-industrial complex rather than the voices of congressmen.

NONALIGNED MOVEMENT SUMMIT MEETING CONTINUES

Issues Draft Economic Declaration

LD261853 Moscow TASS in English 1725 GMT 26 Aug 86

[Text] Harare August 26 TASS -- Cooperation of transnational corporations with the regime of the Republic of South Africa leads to consolidation of the apartheid policy and continuation of Pretoria's illegal occupation of the territory of Namibia, says the draft economic declaration of the 8th Conference of Heads of State and Government of Nonaligned Countries, which has been distributed here today.

The draft economic declaration demands that transnational corporations should strictly follow the relevant decisions of the U.N. Security Council and give up attempts to prevent measures aimed at eradication of apartheid. The draft economic declaration pledges the Nonaligned Movement's solidarity with the countries in the south of Africa in their struggle against the policy of destabilisation carried out by Pretoria.

Acclaims Moratorium

LD270359 Moscow TASS in English 0657 GMT 27 Aug 86

[Text] Harare August 27 TASS -- The Non-aligned Movement acclaims the unilateral nuclear tests moratorium declared by the Soviet Union, notes the draft political declaration of the 8th Non-aligned Conference of the Heads of State and Government. It calls on the USA to join the Soviet Union and to establish a moratorium on nuclear explosions. The Non-aligned Movement acclaims the comprehensive and timely programme for nuclear disarmament on a stage-by-stage basis and at fixed periods, which was recently put forward by the Soviet Union. The aims and tasks of the programme aimed at complete liquidation (by the end of the current century) of nuclear weapons on earth by all nuclear powers, are largely consonant with the position consistently taken by the non-aligned countries.

The document contains an appeal to the disarmament conference to start immediately talks on concluding an agreement or agreements so as to prevent the arms race from spreading to outer sapce, contributing, thereby, to cooperation in peaceful space exploration.

The document points to the need for starting negotiations and concluding an all-embracing and multilateral treaty on banning nuclear weapons tests. The existing verification means are sufficient to guarantee the observance of a treaty on banning nuclear tests are going on, a moratorium should be declared on all tests, production and deployment of nuclear weapons.

GORBACHEV 18 AUG SPEECH CIRCULATED AT UN

LD261505 Moscow TASS in English 1419 GMT 26 Aug 86

[Text] New York August 26 TASS -- The text of the statement made by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, over the Soviet television on August 18 has been circulated at the United Nations Organization as an official document of the U.N. General Assembly.

REPORTAGE ON U.S. ANTI-LIBYA CAMPAIGN

Falin on 'Massing' of U.S. Navy

LD271114 Moscow TASS in English 1103 GMT 27 Aug 86

[Text] Moscow August 27 TASS -- No state approaching the questions of peace and security with a sense of responsibility can welcome the massing of the U.S. naval force in the area of the Mediterranean against Libya, Valentin Falin chairman of the board of the NOVOSTI PRESS AGENCY (APN), told a press conference here today. This is a fresh manifestation of military force, an act of sabre rattling typical of the USA. This, certainly, destabilises the situation not only in that region, but also in a broader sense, Valentin Falin pointed out.

The Soviet Union's stand remains invariable -- we are for a durable political settlement in that area with due regard for the interests and security of all states and peoples.

As far as the USA is concerned, it remains on the whole, on the line of the Camp David policy, i.e. is out to settle the Middle East problem in the interests above all of the United States itself and of Israel. This is a policy designed for an unbalanced settlement to the detriment of the Arab peoples, and, above all, to the Arab people of Palestine. Naturally, such a settlement cannot meet either with understanding, or sympathy from us, Valentin Falin said.

Kharkov Commentary

LD261349 Moscow TASS in English 1311 GMT 26 Aug 86

[Text] Moscow August 26 TASS -- Follows commentary by Vasiliy Kharkov, TASS political news analyst:

Washington is again whipping up an anti-Libyan campaign under the same false pretext that Tripoli is "encouraging terrorism". U.S. officials made it clear that the USA is contemplating a number of actions against Libya, including a possible new armed strike against the country's territory. The newspaper WASHINGTON POST quoted today a high-ranking White House official as saying that the USA was prepared to strike against Libya, if necessary. He confirmed the main provisions of the information published in THE WALL STREET JOURNAL yesterday on the military measures planned by the Pentagon, and subversive activity against Libya.

Vernon A. Walters, the United States delegate to the United Nations, is reported to plan to go to Western Europe later this week to demand again from the allies of the United States that they "tighten up political and economic sanctions against Libya". The Washington administration itself has already introduced a number of measures to bring economic pressure to bear on Libya, bans on trade and financial ties of U.S. firms with Libya, on travel of American citizens to that country, landing of U.S. planes, and froze Libyan assets in the USA, as well as took some other measures.

The campaign of blackmail and threats against Libya is accompanied with sabre rattling. The USA has massed near the Libyan coast in the Mediterranean a big naval force with aircraft carrier "Forrestal" at its head. Ship-borne and electronic intelligence planes are taking part in the U.S.-Egyptian exercises, which began on Monday. In building up its military might, Washington clearly shows that it will not stop at committing it to action.

The world remembers well that the unfounded charges against Tripoli of "support for terrorism" have served as a pretext for the U.S. armed aggression against Libya in April this year. Then U.S. aircraft bombed and fired missiles on the Libyan capital, Banghazi and their outskirts. But the U.S. bombing could not intimidate the Libyans. The Libyan Jamahiriyah did not bow to Washington's diktat, did not give up its anti-imperialist policy.

The current concentration of the naval force and provocative actions near the coastal states threatening the independence and sovereignty of the countries in the basin, the Libyan newspaper "AL-NIDA" [as received] said, makes one evaluate once again the Soviet proposal on turning the Mediterranean into a zone of peace and withdrawing all naval fleets from there. The implementation of that proposal would make it possible to eliminate the threat of a conflagration, which may flare up through the fault of the forces of aggression and result in a major explosion.

New 'Punitive Strike' Planned

LD270401 Moscow TASS in English 0349 GMT 27 Aug 86

[Text] Washington August 27 TASS -- Washington has made a concrete step indicating that the USA is preparing a new large-scale provocation against Libya.

It has been learnt here, that the Pentagon ordered the U.S. aircraft carrier "Forrestall" and three other ships to cancel the call at the Israeli port of Haifa on August 28 and resume patrolling off Libya's northern coasts in the Mediterranean.

At present the "Forrestall" is participating in the U.S.-Egyptian exercises in the Mediterranean, which are due to end on August 28. Washington's pointed sabre rattling is taking place against the background of extremely alarming reports of the U.S. press, television and news agencies that the White House is hatching plans of a new "punitive strike" against Libya, including military action, subversive clandestine operations and economic sanctions.

U.S.-THAI, SOVIET NAVAL EXERCISES COMPARED

LD252312 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English 1400 GMT 25 Aug 86

[Text] The commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, Admiral James Lyons, Jr., has come out with another statement the essence of which comes down to the following: The Soviet fleet, he alleges, will now begin displaying its might, and the pretext for such a claim, according to the admiral, are the recent exercises by units of the Soviet Pacific Fleet (?which have become) known in the United States (?naval circles).

Of course, the statement by Adm James Lyons, Jr., could have gone unnoticed were it not for two circumstances. First, it was the Pentagon that made the admiral's statement public. That means it is not just his own personal opinion. And secondly, it was made immediately after the largest ever joint American-Thai annual maneuvres "Cobra Gold-86." And the latter compels one to compare what the Pentagon says about the exercises of the Soviet Pacific Fleet with the maneuvers held by the Americans recently off the shores of the Gulf of Siam.

According to official U.S. naval circles, the exercises of the Soviet Fleet involved from 14 to 18 service ships and a number of aircraft (?in the first count).

The "Cobra Gold-86" maneuvers involved a total of 30,000 marines and special purpose soldiers on the land, the sea and air. So the question is, whose fleet is putting on a demonstration of power? As the Pentagon announces, the Soviet exercises began in the Sea of Okhotsk, which is an internal sea off the north-east coast of the Soviet Union. American intelligence reported that several Soviet ships passed through the straits of La Perouse and along the string of Kurile Islands. Once again, this the Soviet territory.

At the "Cobra Gold-86" maneuvers everything was quite different. They were started and conducted off the coast and on the shores of the Indochinese peninsula, that is the Asian-Pacific region which is far away from the American mainland. The region of the exercises embraced one of the crisis zones in that part of the world, the border between Thailand and Kampuchea. And the objective of the American-Thai exercises was by no means harmless. The "Cobra Gold-86" maneuvers involved a large-scale offensive operation, landing an assault force in the sea in night conditions, the seizure of installations on the territory of the supposed enemy by marine units and with support of helicopters. In short, they played off a large-scale operation for seizing and holding a bridgehead on alien territory, one of those that fits in to Washington's plans spearheaded against sovereign countries and peoples. American nuclear-capable fighter bombers were also taking part in the "Cobra Gold-86" maneuvers and they were brought into the region of the exercises from the South Korean base of (?Komotai), the very same base where, according to the Pentagon, there are nuclear weapons depots.

These are but a few of the comparisons between the exercises of the two fleets in the Pacific, the Soviet and American fleets. But even so, they vividly demonstrate not only the significant difference in the scope of their activities but, what is more important, what they were directed at. If the American 7th Fleet has spread all over the Pacific and its practising large-scale aggressive actions to seize other people's territory far from its own shores, then the exercises of the Soviet Fleet are first of all of a defensive nature. They envisage only such (?variants) which are aimed at checking the designs of aggressors. And, finally, there is nothing surprising in the fact that in response to America's muscle-flexing demonstrations in the Asian-Pacific zone we are undertaking corresponding measures. One other thing is quite clear: The activities of navies in the Pacific are intensifying and these activities should be reduced. The Soviet people, as well as peoples in other countries, are in favor of beginning tasks on this issue, and the Soviet leadership has officially announced its readiness to begin such talks.

COMMENTARY SCORES U.S. MILITARY AID TO TAIWAN

OW241346 Moscow in Mandarin to China 0700 GMT 22 Aug 86

[Shakov commentary]

[Excerpts] According to an AP report, Lugar, chairman of the U.S. Senate Foreign Affairs Committee, has started his official visit to Taiwan. In his talks with Taiwan's activists, he discussed with them specific matters of U.S. plans to supply weapons to Taiwan. The following is a commentary by station commentator Shakov:

To provide weapons to Taiwan is a brutal violation of China's sovereignty, for Taiwan is an inseparable part of China. The U.S. Government officially recognized this after the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and China and committed itself not to have any political or military ties with Taiwan. However, the United States has never honored its commitment.

In fact, it still maintains diplomatic ties with Taiwan, holds talks with Taiwan on many political issues, and exchanges delegations of various levels with it. This is proven by the U.S. trade volume with Taiwan, which is twice as much as that with China.

The United States has been providing Taiwan with nearly $1 billion worth of military aid annually. Just recently, it announced that an agreement to increase its supply of advanced military equipment to Taiwan, valued at $270 million, had been signed by the two parties. Such U.S. behavior has violated all resolutions adopted by the UN General Assembly. One of these resolutions absolutely prohibits supply of weapons to rebel troops. As for as China is concerned, Taiwan's troops belong in that category. [passage omitted]

It is absolutely rational for the Chinese to show their indignation by denouncing U.S. interference in China's internal affairs. [passage omitted]

While talking about instability in the Asian-Pacific region, Comrade Gorbachev called for urgent efforts to seek solutions regarding this question. Obviously, any solution should be worked out on the basis of respect for sovereignty of all countries and noninterference in their internal affairs. This applies to China, and it should also apply to Afghanistan and Cambodia. There should not be different principles as far as this matter is concerned. For example, one should not denounce the U.S. Administration's interference in Nicaragua's internal affairs while supporting Washington's aggression against Afghanistan and Cambodia. Whoever has experienced damage inflicted by imperialist policies should not consider it reasonable to do the same thing to other countries and peoples.

STEALTH AIRCRAFT INTENDED FOR OFFENSIVE ACTION

OW261125 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1045 GMT 22 Aug 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Dmitriy Biryukov]

[Text] When, a few weeks ago, the American press got wind of another Stealth plane crash, Pentagon representatives took all possible measures to keep the particulars of this crash and everything else related to this plane from getting out. [video shows shots of crash site, B-1 Bomber in flight, control panels, radar screen, B-1 Bombers in hanger] The crux of the matter is that the Stealth possesses a unique quality: It cannot be detected by radar.

But today, THE WASHINGTON POST published sensational material on this problem. According to its information, the U.S. Air Force has nearly 50 Stealth airplanes that are part of a special subunit and are ready to join combat any time. The newspaper reports that these planes are hidden in hangars in the desert not far from Reno, Nevada. They are not seen during daylight and fly only at night.

We are now talking only about fighter planes. Let us say that by stretching a point it could be said that they are needed for a possible defense of the country's airspace, though even this is not very logical as it is being assumed that they cannot be detected by enemy radar. However, now THE WASHINGTON POST reports that there are already Stealth bombers being developed with similar qualities. These machines are clearly intended for offensive action.

In the opinion of certain experts, the Stealth plane that crashed last month in California was a fighter plane.

No further information is available because the crash site, and even the airspace above it, was closed and extraordinary security measures were implemented. No official communication about the details of the crash was made.

THE WASHINGTON POST also reports that new forms of missiles with various radiuses of action are being developed, which are for the time being simply called Stealth missiles. These missiles also cannot be detected by radar. The Pentagon is sparing no funds for new arms.

U.S. IMPOSES NEW ECONOMIC MEASURES AGAINST CUBA

LD231006 Moscow TASS in English 0820 GMT 23 Aug 86

[Text] Washington August 23 TASS -- The Reagan administration has made yet another gross attack against socialist Cuba by taking new steps to toughen the economic embargo against that sovereign country, first imposed early in the 1960's.

An official spokesman for the U.S. Department of State has stated that U.S. President Reagan approved the measures to heighten the embargo against Cuba. The presidential proclamation provides for a tough ban on U.S.-Cuban financial operations and business links between Cuban foreign trade companies functioning in third countries and U.S. firms, he said. The United States is also introducing tough restrictions on activities of tourist and other firms which organize trips of American citizens to Cuba.

COMMENTATOR ON SENATE VOTE ON BINARY WEAPONS

PM261014 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 19 Aug 86 p 3

[Vadim Biryukov "Commentator's Opinion": "'Big Eye' for Europe"]

[Text] The U.S. Senate has voted 57 to 43 against a legislative amendment stipulating that NATO countries agreement be obtained before beginning the production of a new type of chemical weapons, namely binary munitions. At the same time, an amendment to cancel appropriations for the production of the 'Big Eye' chemical binary bomb in the budget for fiscal 1986 was rejected 51 votes to 50.

Before the vote, thanks to which the decision to allocate funds for the production of chemical weapons was "pushed" through the Senate, the White House hurriedly dispatched U.S. Vice President George Bush to Capitol Hill. Under the U.S. Constitution, he is formally the president of the Senate. His vote proved decisive.

The voting in the Senate, where the Republicans have the majority, has graphically demonsterated that Washington does not intend to delay the implementation of its dangerous plans for the "chemical rearmament" of the United States, disregarding even the stance of the House of Representatives, which has voted against the production of chemical weapons. And -- most important -- that it has no intention of consulting its closest NATO allies on this question.

It is known that the NATO countries defense ministers merely "took note" of the U.S. plans, which certainly does not mean that they agreed to the stationing of the new generation of chemical weapons on their territories.

It seems that Washington has already made up its mind that the "Big Eye" bombs will be deployed in Europe. From the U.S. strategists' viewpoint this is absolutely logical -- storing chemical weapons as far away as possible from their own borders and as close as possible to the envisaged "theater of military operations" -- a role which the United States so kindly assigned to the Old World. However, the population of Europe takes a different view. It protests the plans of the U.S. military to transform the continent into a U.S. chemical weapons dump and does not want to become the hostage of Washington's aggressive policy.

CANCER COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH U.S.

LD260942 Moscow World Service in English 0700 GMT 26 Aug 86

[Text] The Soviet Union and the United States have signed an agreement on cooperation in cancer control. The document was signed in Budapest, Hungary, where an international congress on this problem is being held. Soviet Academician Nikolay Blokhin said that the Soviet-American cooperation in this sphere will benefit the population of not only the two countries but the entire world. A United States medical expert, Dr James Wyngaarden, has announced that a group of United States experts will visit Moscow to determine concrete areas for joint research in fighting cancer.

HERITAGE FOUNDATION ALLEGEDLY FINANCES MNR REBELS

LD261515 Moscow TASS in English 1432 GMT 26 Aug 86

[Text] Harare August 26 TASS -- The gangs of the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) perpetrating armed crimes on Mozambique's territory are financed through the reactionary American Heritage Foundation notorious for its close ties with the Reagan administration. A statement to this effect was made in an interview with the Zimbabwean news agency ZIANA by Helen Ray, chairman of the National Lawyers Guild. She attended an international seminar held here on the subject "Non-Aligned Movement and the New Information Order".

The Heritage Foundation, Helen Ray pointed out, is a convenient channel for the supply by the CIA and other U.S. Government agencies of the MNR with money and weapons, without disclosing their involvement in support for the terrorists. Characteristically, even the MNR representation in Washington is housed in the building of that U.S. organization.

The patrons of MNR in the USA, the chairman of the lawyers guild stressed, noticeably influence the shaping of the U.S. foreign policy. It is not accidental that the foundation whose opinion is attentively heeded in the White House is described as "Reagan's shadow cabinet."

A noisy campaign in support of MNR, H. Ray said, has been also launched by the so-called "Council for Freedom in the World", the American branch of the World Anti-Communist League. Recently Jack Willer, one of the leaders of the league, was not ashamed of describing in the journal "SOLDIERS OF FORTUNE", thorugh which mercenaries are recruited for "foul work" in various parts of the world, his adventures jointly with MNR bandits of Mozambique's territory, where he made his way illegally.

BEIJING MUNICIPAL DELEGATION VISITS KIEV

LD261327 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1237 GMT 26 Aug 86

[Text] Kiev, 26 Aug (TASS) -- A delegation from the Municipal People's Government of Beijing headed by the mayor of Beijing, Cheng Xitong, acquainted itself with Kiev for 3 days. At the Gorispokom, the guests were told of the economic and social development of the Ukrainian capital and the participation of Kievans in solving the tasks raised by the 27th CPSU Congress.

The main aim of our visit, Cheng Xitong said, is to further the deepening of friendly ties between the Chinese and Soviet peoples. The current visit, he continued, also provides for an exchange of experience in the activity of city councils. In Moscow, Leningrad, and here in the Ukrainian capital we have found much that is instructive for our work. This makes it possible to hope for a further deepening of our friendly ties and for a broadening of cooperation in the sphere of the economy, science, and culture.

The members of the delegation laid flowers at the monument to V.I. Lenin. In the Path of Eternal Glory they laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The guests saw the exhibition at the memorial complex "The Ukrainian State Museum of the History of the Great Patriotic War 1941-1945".

FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY DELEGATION'S VISIT NOTED

LD261355 Moscow TASS in English 1318 GMT 26 Aug 86

[Text] Chita August 26 TASS -- A delegation of the branch of the Chinese-Soviet Friendship Society of the autonomous area of Inner Mongolia of the People's Republic of China stayed in the Chita region (Siberia) for a week. The guests toured the Aginsk Buryat autonomous area, visited livestock farms and familiarized themselves with the life of the Soviet countryside. They also visited industrial enterprises in Chita, Museum; hospitals and schools.

Li Wenchang, the delegation leader, told TASS that Chita citizens had told them that the future of eastern Siberia lay, above all, in the economic development of the zone adjoining the Baykal-Amur Railway. A veritable treasure grove of most diverse minerals had been discovered there. He added that they had witnessed the unanimity with which Soviet people approved the statement by Mikhail Gorbachev on extending the Soviet unilateral nuclear tests moratorium. The Soviet people sincerely want peace It was a pleasure to see their interest in people's China and to learn that the Chinese language was studied in Chita schools. The delegation was warmly welcomed at the Chita branch of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society. "Departing, we tell our neighbours: till see you again," said Li Wenchang.

GYMNASTS LEAVE FOR TOURNAMENT IN BEIJING

LD251639 Moscow TASS in English 1541 GMT 25 Aug 86

[Excerpt] Moscow August 25 TASS -- Top Soviet gymnasts are leaving today for Beijing for the 7th world cup tournament which is to be held there on August 30-September 1. [passage omitted]

RYZHKOV RECEIVES MONGOLIAN PREMIER 26 AUG

LD261520 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1408 GMT 26 Aug 86

[Text] Moscow, 26 Aug (TASS) -- A meeting took place today in the Kremlin between Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Dumyaagin Sodnom, member of the MPRP Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the Mongolian Peoples Republic [MPR] Council of Ministers.

During the conversation which passed in a spirit of cordiality and complete mutual understanding there was an exchange of information on the socioeconomic development of the Soviet Union and Mongolia, and on the great work carried out in both countries to put into effect the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 19th MPRP Congress. Deep satisfaction was expressed with the broadening of Soviet-Mongolian relations in various spheres and the constantly strengthening alliance between the two fraternal parties, countries, and peoples.

With respect to developing the accords achieved at the recent meeting of the general secretaries of the CPSU and MPRP Central Committees, Mikhail Gorbachev and Jambyn Batmonh, a number of special questions of Soviet-Mongolian cooperation and the further enhancing of its efficiency were discussed. In connection with the implementation of the long-term program for the development of economic and scientific-technical cooperation between the USSR and the MPR for the period up to the year 2000, note was made of the growing significance of the wider use of advanced forms of economic ties, in particular of the creation of joint enterprises, of which the Soviet Union and Mongolia have significant positive experience.

The conversation also covered questions of the international situation and the further strengthening of the interaction between the two countries in the interests of the struggle for peace and the security of peoples. Dumaagiyn Sodnom gave a high assessment of the new Soviet peace initiatives contained in the speech by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee in Vladivostok and the decision to continue the unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions up to 1 January 1987. He stressed that they serve the interests of strengthening the peace and security of all states, including the countries of Asia and the Pacific Basin, and serve the cause of the limitation and reduction of weapons, foremost nuclear weapons.

Nikolay Ryzhkov stated that it is with deep satisfaction that the USSR notes the growth of the international authority of the MPR, and gives a high assessment to its contribution to the common efforts by the socialist community in the struggle for peace and cooperation in Asia and throughout the world.

The ambassador of the MPR in the USSR, Tserengiyn Gurbadam participated in the conversation.

MPRP DOCUMENT PRAISES BATMONH-GORBACHEV MEETING

LD261256 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 26 Aug 86

[Text] A document was published today in Ulaanbaatar by the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Politburo on the results of the friendly meeting between Jambyn Batmonh, general secretary of the MPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Great People's Hural Presidium of the Mongolian People's Republic, and Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

This meeting, the document says, confirmed once again the unity of views and party positions on all matters discussed concerning the socioeconomic development of both countries and the current international situation.

Both leaders spoke highly of the fruitfulness of multifaceted Mongolian-Soviet cooperation and noted the need for fuller use of reserves for raising the effectiveness of bilateral cooperation.

COMMENTATOR VIEWS REPRESSION IN SOUTH KOREA

SK251346 Moscow International Service in Korean 1330 GMT 24 Aug 86

[Commentary by station commentator Ditrov]

[Text] According to a report from Seoul, approximately 1,500 armed police raided Korea University and arrested some 70 students who attempted to make a mass advance to oppose the Chon Tu-hwan regime.

Ditrov, commentator of this radio station writes the following: Kim Yong-sam, one of the South Korean opposition leaders, has said that there have been many dictators in our country but the present dictator is the most vicious rascal. He also noted that police repression, censorship, and suppression of publications are being perpetrated more comprehensively than ever before. This is true. The Seoul authorities are committing every form of suppression, as Kim Yong-sam has pointed out. Police raids of colleges and universities and the arrest and persecution of those who call for democratic reform are phenomena in the South Korean situation. The spearhead of the most vicious suppression is being directed at the students who traditionally stand in the vanguard of the opponents of dictatorship. As reported by the Japanese paper MAINICHI SHIMBUN, 30 percent of Seoul University students are (?expelled) from school every year. Some of them have suffered an extreme degree of persecution and insult. In some cases death results from such suppression. According to material made public by the opposition leader, of 1,600 political prisoners who are suffering in prisons, a large number constitutes leaders of the student movement. The struggle of the South Korean youths does not stop even amid terrorist atrocities. In particular, this year such a struggle began to be staged on a larger scale. Participants in mass rallies and in other social advances numbered more than (?1) million. Their demands are also very extensive, ranging from freedom of labor, an end to police suppression, constitutional revision, and democratization of the entire society to the resignation of the Seoul regime. Some South Korean youths, both men and women, demand the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea and an end to U.S. interference in the domestic affairs of the nation. Needless to say, such demands incurred the displeasure of the rulers in Seoul. To suppress the student demonstrations, they mobilized a special police force and armored cars and used tear gas and [word indistinct].

Seoul recently tried to stage a farce of democracy. Thus, those concerned allowed fighters from the opposition party to briskly carry out their activities for a while. They decided to remove police patrols from campuses. It appears that such steps taken under directives from Washington were aimed at having Seoul authorities stage a farce of democracy for the international community in a manner in which steam is released from a boiler. However, such a method has disappeared by itself. The rascal owner of Chongwadae has further sharpened the (?ax) as if coming to his senses. The reason for this is clear. The advance of the students and opposition fighters will inspire the struggle of the people from other sectors including the working class, which is deprived of all rights. Not only the South Korean residents but also social circles of many countries demand an end to police suppression and the granting of democratic freedom and rights to the South Korean people.

BAKHTAR CITED ON U.S. AID TO AFGHAN REBELS

PM261218 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Aug 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Campaign of Lies and Slander"]

[Text] Kabul, 21 Aug -- It is no secret to anyone that the United States launched and continues to this day to wage an undeclared war against Afghanistan, a BAKHTAR commentary says.

Hundreds of millions of dollars have been appropriated in recent years to train and arm the counterrevolution sent into the DRA from abroad. Through U.S. efforts bloodshed continues in the country, civilians suffer, and material assets are destroyed.

In addition to its armed interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs, the agency observes, Washington has organized a noisy propaganda campaign against the DRA and the April Revolution. The lies and slander pursue two aims: First, to deceive the international public by means of fabrications about the situation in Afghanistan and, second, to justify imperialist aggression against the DRA.

The link between previous U.S. actions in the sphere of propaganda warfare against Afghanistan and the present decision by the USIA to appropriate $500,000 to implement plans designed to help escalate psychological warfare against the DRA is patently clear, BAKHTAR goes on. While quite recently an "Afghan news agency" was set up in Pakistan on U.S. CIA money, now more than $300,000 have been appropriated to set up a so-called "Afghan news service" and "courses" have been organized for dushmans at Boston University, where they will acquire experience in spreading disinformation.

JUNEJO THREATENS TOUGH MEASURES AGAINST 'BANDITS'

LD251524 Moscow TASS in English 1357 GMT 25 Aug 86

[Text] Moscow August 25 TASS -- Follows commentary by Valeriy Vavilov, a TASS news analyst:

Pakistani Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo has described as "bandits" the participants in the large-scale anti-government actions in the country. Addressing MPs in Lahore, he threatened the toughest measures against opposition and that the anti-government movement would be crushed.

The authorities do not confine themselves to verbal threats. Not only reinforced police duty details but also army units have been sent to suppress public actions, which were held under anti-government slogans in many cities of the country in recent days. In Sind Province alone, where popular actions were the broadest, a total of 9,891 persons have been arrested. Hundreds of members of the Pakistan People's Party and of other opposition parties have been jailed in other provinces too.

Benazir Bhutto, Tikka Khan and many other opposition leaders, have been put behind the prison bars. A total of 43 persons, including an eight-year-old girl, have been killed when demonstrations were being dispersed. Hundreds of demonstrators have been injured.

"The army is treating its own people like aggressors do on foreign territory", Rafiq Shafi [name as received], a representative of the group in defence of civil rights, said. The working class cannot stand idly by looking in silence at the crimes perpetrated by the Army against innocent population," Abdul Aziz Menan [name as received], president of the trade union, stressed.

And all of them have been listed by the prime minister as "bandits". Aren't there too many "bandits" now in that Asian country? Since despite the strict (?ban) of Islamabad, hundreds of thousands of Pakistanis took part in demonstrations of protest. Demonstrations have been held in the country's biggest centres -- Lahore, Karachi, Hyderabad, Multan and Rawalpindi. Unrest has also swept rural areas. Among the participants in the demonstrations were workers and peasants, handicraftsmen and intellectuals, representing the broad opposition movement.

The opposition puts forward specific, topical demands: an end to the nine-year-old rule of the Ziaul Haq regime, that agree parliamentary elections be held already this year and a new democratic government be formed on their basis.

The outbreak of anti-government actions has shown that broad public no longer wishes to put up with Islamabad's anti-people's home policy, comes out against a strengthening of the military alliance with Washington and participation in the undeclared war against the Democrat Republic of Afghanistan, demands that the gangs of anti-Afghan counter-revolutionary rabble be expelled from Pakistan's territory. The cruel repressions of the authorities against their own people, whom Islamabad sees only as "bandits", is by no means evidence of the regime's strength, but on the contrary, of its weakness, and its attempts to keep in power whatever the cost, including by force of arms.

INDIA'S GANDHI RECEIVES TATLIYEV-LED DELEGATION

PM261037 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Aug 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In a Cordial Atmosphere"]

[Text] Delhi, 23 Aug -- Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Ghandi received a delegation of the Soviet public headed by S.B. Tatliyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. It is taking part in the Indian-Soviet friendship month which is taking place here to mark the 15th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty on Peace, Friendship, and Cooperation between the USSR and India and the 39th anniversary of the republic's independence.

In the course of a warm, friendly conversation the Indian head of government gave a high assessment of the USSR's peace-loving foreign policy and the latest peace initiatives put forward by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. In turn, S.B. Tatliyev welcomed the important contribution by India as the acknowledged leader of the Nonaligned Movement and by R. Gandhi personally to the cause of preserving and strengthening world peace and curbing the arms race.

Both sides expressed deep satisfaction with the present state of multifaceted Soviet-Indian relations and the prospects for their development on the firm, long-term basis of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship, and Cooperation between the two countries.

PALLAYEV RECEIVES NGUYEN HUU THO DELEGATION

OW261335 Moscow International Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 26 Aug 86

[Text] A conversation was held on 26 August between Pallayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and an SRV delegation headed by Comrade Nguyen Huu Tho, vice chairman of the SRV Council of State, during its stopover in Moscow while en route to Harare to attend the Eighth Conference of the Heads of State and Government of the Nonaligned countries. The conversation took place in friendship with the participation of SRV Ambassador Dinh Nho Liem.

ROGACHEV MEETS WITH PHAM VAN DONG IN HANOI

LD261330 Moscow TASS in English 1207 GMT 26 Aug 86

[Text] Hanoi August 26 TASS -- Pham Van Dong, a member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV) and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (SRV), spoke out today in support of a package of Soviet initiatives for ensuring peace and security in the Asian-Pacific region, which had been put forward by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in his speech in Vladivostok.

On behalf of the CPV Central Committee and the SRV Government, he hailed the new important steps taken by the Soviet Union with the aim of improving the international situation, eliminating nuclear weapons and achieving disarmament.

Pham Van Dong, who was receiving Deputy Soviet Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev, added that his country believes that if the United States joins the Soviet moratorium, this will mark a serious and responsible turnaround to stopping to upgrade and stockpile the most destructive weapons.

Robachev said that the constructive proposals of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea meet the goals of launching a goodneighbour cooperation in Asia and achieving a fair settlement in South East Asia.

The conversation covered a wide range of international problems and some issues of Soviet-Vietnamese cooperation.

The Soviet representative also had a conversation with Nguyen Co Thach, an alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPV Central Committee and foreign minister of the SRV, on issues of mutual interest.

MOSCOW MEETING MARKS ROMANIAN NATIONAL DAY

PM261041 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Aug 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Romanian People's Holiday"]

[Text] Soviet-Romanian relations are developing steadily on an ascending line in all spheres of political, economc, and cultural life. This was noted on 22 August at a ceremonial meeting of representatives of Moscow's working people to mark Romania's national holiday -- Romania's day of liberation from the fascist yoke and the 42d anniversary of the antifascist and anti-imperialist revolution of social and national liberation.

L.N. Ryamzin, deputy chairman of the Soviet-Romanian Friendship Society Central Board and RSFSR deputy minister, who delivered the report, said that the armed uprising in August 1944, carried out by Romanian patriotic forces, led to the overthrow of the military-fascist dictatorship in the country. In the course of the joint struggle against a common enemy, Soviet-Romanian brotherhood in arms and the alliance and friendship between our countries and peoples were born. Romania's liberation from the fascist yoke opened a new chapter in its history.

In his speech, T. Dudas, Romanian ambassador to the USSR, noted that since the August revolution profound political, economic, and social transformations have taken place in Romania.

The constant strengthening of friendship and the expansion of mutually advantageous ties with the USSR were and are the basis of the foreign policy of our party and state, T. Dudas stressed. The bonds of friendship and solidarity between the RCP and the CPSU and the meetings and talks between our countries' leaders play a decisive role in developing bilateral relations.

The communists and all the Romanian people attach great significance to the successes achieved by Soviet working people along the path of creating a developed socialist society, as well as to the important role which the USSR plays in the international arena.

The ambassador noted that Romania welcomes the Soviet Union's decision to extend the unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions to 1 January 1987, set forth in the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Taking part in the meeting were G. Pallayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, L.A. Voronin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, leaders of a number of ministries and departments, military leaders, and representatives of party, soviet, and public organizations. A delegation from the Romanian-Soviet Friendship Society headed by I. Hobana, member of the bureau of the society's leading committee, was present.

Sokolov Greets Milea

PM271032 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Aug 86 Second Edition p 1

[Text] To Comrade Colonel General V. Milea, Minister of National Defense of the Socialist Republic of Romania

Esteemed Comrade Minister!

On behalf of the USSR Armed Forces and on my own behalf, I cordially congratulate you and all members of the Army of the Socialist Republic of Romania on your national holiday -- the day of Romania's liberation from the fascist yoke -- and on the 42d anniversary of your antifascist, anti-imperialist revolution of social and national liberation.

Over the past years, within the fraternal family of socialist states and under the leadership of the Communist Party, the Romanian people have achieved great success in socialist building and in strengthening the Republic's defense capability. Guided by the 27th CPSU Congress decisions, Soviet people and Army and Navy servicemen will continue to strengthen in every way possible the friendship and cooperation that exists between our peoples and their armed forces.

I wish Romanian Army personnel new successes in their combat and political training for the good of strengthening the defense capability of their motherland and further consolidating the combat cooperation between the Warsaw Pact states' armies.

With communist greetings,

Marshal of the Soviet Union S. Sokolov, USSR defense minister

Report on Bucharest Meeting

PM261839 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Aug 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Ceremonial Meeting"]

[Text] Bucharest, 22 Aug -- A ceremonial meeting was held yesterday at the capital's 23 August stadium on the Romanian national holiday -- the day of the country's liberation from the fascist yoke and the 42d anniversary of the antifascist and anti-imperialist revolution of social and national liberation. N. Ceausescu, secretary general of the RCP and Romanian president, and other Romanian leaders participated.

The meeting was addressed by C. Olteanu, member of the RCP Political Executive Committee and first secretary of RCP Bucharest Municipal Committee. He stressed that the antifascist and anti-imperialist revolution of social and national liberation opened a new era, an era of profound socialist transformations in the country. Noting the historic services of the Communist Party in rallying patriotic forces to oust the fascist government, he stressed that after 23 August the Romanian people joined in the anti-Hitlerite coalition and its army participated in the war together with the Soviet Army until the final victory over fascism. The Romanian people, he said, pay profound tribute to the Soviet Army, which bore the brunt of the war against fascism, and honor the memory of Soviet servicemen and the soldiers from other countries in the anti-Hitlerite coalition, partisans, and all those who fell in the struggle against fascism.

JOINT SPACE FLIGHT WITH BULGARIA IN 1988

LD221510 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1435 GMT 22 Aug 86

[Text] Moscow, 22 Aug (TASS) -- A protocol was signed today in Moscow on the preparations for and the conduct of a joint manned Soviet-Bulgarian space flight in 1988 on the orbital scientific complex "Mir"-"Soyuz."

The protocol was signed on the Soviet side by Aleksandr Dunayev, head of the USSR Glavkosmos, and on the Bulgarian side by Mako Dakov, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences vice president, chairman of the National Committee for Research and Exploitation of Space.

DEMICHEV MEETS WITH POLISH PROSECUTOR GENERAL

PM261314 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Aug 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Conversation Held"]

[Text] P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received a delegation from the Polish Prosecutor's Office headed by Prosecutor General J. Zyto in the Kremlin on 22 August.

The guests were acquainted with the way in which the tasks of accelerating the country's social and economic development set by the 27th Congress are being resolved in the USSR and with the activity of the supreme organ of state power in implementing them. During the conversation special attention was paid to questions of improving legislation, monitoring the observance of laws and the work of state organs, and the leadership of local soviets.

J. Zyto noted that regular contacts between Polish and Soviet lawyers contribute to the strengthening of friendship and cooperation between the two countries' peoples.

Taking part in the conversation were A.M. Rekunkov, USSR prosecutor general, and W. Natorf, Polish ambassador to the USSR.

USMANKHODZHAYEV RECEIVES POLISH CP DELEGATION

LD221503 Tashkent Domestic Service in Russian 1210 GMT 11 Aug 86

[Text] Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee First Secretary Usmankhodzhayev received the members of the PZPR delegation headed by Jozef Baryla, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee today. The delegation is staying in the Soviet Union at the CPSU Central Committee's invitation.

Participating in the friendly conversation were Wlodzimierz Mokrzyszczak, PZPR Central Committee Politburo member, PZPR Central Auditing Commission chairman; Stanislaw Bejger, PZPR Central Committee Politburo candidate member, Gdansk PZPR Provincial Committee first secretary; Kazimierz Cypryniak, PZPR Central Committee secretary; Boguslaw Jazwiec PZPR Central Committee member head of a Central Committee Department [positions as heard]; Jozef Gajewicz, PZPR Central Committee member, Krakow PZPR Provincial Committee first secretary; and Jozef Nioewiadomski, PZPR Central Committee member, Lodz PZPR Provincial Committee first secretary.

Also taking part in the conversation were Comrade Ikramov, UZBEK Communist Party Central Committee secretary, and Comrade Satin, Tashkent Gorkom first secretary.

Jozef Baryla and the other members of the PZPR delegation visited the Tashkent branch of the Central Vladimir Ilich Lenin Museum and the sights of Uzbekistan's capital. The same day. The delegation will tour the republic.

UK ENVOY DELIVERS THATCHER MESSAGE FOR GORBACHEV

LD261754 Moscow TASS in English 1614 GMT 26 Aug 86

[Text] Moscow August 26 TASS -- Anatoliy Kovalev, first deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, received today N. Marshall, charge d'affaires ad interim of Britain in the Soviet Union, who handed over a personel message of Margaret Thatcher, prime minister of Britain, to Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

During a conversation they discussed some topical problems, specifically those connected with the Soviet unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions.

ARTICLE CRITICIZES UK PAPERS'S MORATORIUM LOGIC

PM261322 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Aug 86 First Edition p 4

[A. Maslennikov "Rejoinder": "When There Is No Argument"]

[Text] Western propagandists are clearly at a loss when it comes to the USSR's decision to extend its moratorium on nuclear explosions to the beginning of next year. London's THE TIMES, failing to find any reasonable argument to justify the West's refusal to endorse the moratorium, called the decision "propaganda subterfuge."

According to the paper's upside-down "logic," the criterion of the seriousness of the Soviet approach to the arms control problem would be nothing other than... the "abandonment of this subterfuge," in other words, the resumption of nuclear explosions. Now there is "back-to-front logic" for you.

In fairness it should be said, however, that THE TIMES does offer an entirely plausible argument in an effort to explain why the idea of a nuclear moratorium is so obstinately rejected by the West. "The Russians must realize," it writes, "that there will be no possibility of an accord on a general nuclear test ban treaty as long as President Reagan is in power since, in his view, it is important for the United States to have a program for testing its weapon systems."

Well, it is possible that London has an even clearer picture of what is going on in the Washington political kitchen. This, however, cannot be grounds for rejecting a nuclear moratorium, the idea of which is winning wider and wider support not only among the people's masses, but also among wider and wider government circles in various countries of the world.

BRITISH MILITARY ACTIVITY IN CYPRUS DENOUNCED

NC252132 Moscow in Greek to Cyprus 1700 GMT 24 Aut 86

[Text] According to news agency reports the British base in Akrotiri, Cyprus, has been reinforced recently with troops and equipment. Our commentator writes the following:

The telex machines were printing out dispatches on the activities of the British military in Cyprus. Such reports, though recent, have been famous for decades.

This type of information, which is both disquieting and inevitable, has also appeared in the press year in and year out. These reports will be inevitable as long as this bad and reverberating phrase exists: Sovereign British bases on Cypriot soil. Besides, the details in these reports may differ, and that is how the codenames of maneuvers, and information on infrastructure projects and new runways appear. Furthermore, a tourist may be misled by the tidy lawns, the peaceful appearance of the barracks, and the ability to pass through the bases. However, illusions are shattered sooner or later. The latest such instance came when U.S. F-111 fighters took off from bases in England to bomb Libyan towns. On the eve of that attack, London placed its military installations in Cyprus on full combat alert. The press published reports saying these bases were to be used by the Americans in an assault on Libya. This meant that the danger of Cyprus being tied to America's military adventures was becoming real. The anxiety felt by Cypriots grew stronger following the official statement in London that the sovereign bases in Cyprus were British territory, and could be used for any purpose deemed expedient by Great Britain.

Here is some relevant information on this issue. In 1956, Great Britain thought it expedient to make Cyprus a springboard for the British-French-Israeli aggression against the Arab Republic of Egypt. London considered it expedient to give the green light to the American military infiltration of Cyprus. The hospitable Britons have converted their bases into a takeoff point for the spy planes of the U.S. Air Force. America's Rapid Deployment Force has been using the British bases in Cyprus for a long time now, just as if those facilities were their own. In short, and as you can see, the phrase I deem it expedient, sounds very convincing in London's vocabulary. However, the question arises: Why, during those tragic days of July 1974, did Britain deem it expedient to care about the fate of the Cypriot people? Why doesn't NATO deem it expedient to take the security of Cyprus into account, while it does deem it expedient to tie Cyprus to its military adventures and disregard the future of the Cypriot people? This is so because, apparently, the interests of the sovereign Republic of Cyprus and those of the sovereign British bases are no less different than the weather in London and Nicosia. This is precisely why London -- the landlord of 259 sq km of Cypriot territory -- prefers to act any way it likes. As long as this state of affairs continues, the reports on Britain's military bases in Cyprus and the dangerous preparations being made there will be inevitable. The question that causes concern to the Cypriots will remain inevitable as well: What adventures has NATO's General Staff dreamt up involving the British bases? This point is particularly timely now that the United States is conducting large-scale maneuvers in the Mediterranean.

The Cypriot people's struggle for a just and lasting solution to the Cyprus problem will also be inevitable. Such a settlement is impossible without the removal of all foreign bases on the island, the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Cypriot soil, and the demilitarization of Cyrprus.

SOVIET DELEGATION MEETS PAPANDREOU, SARTZETAKIS

PM251347 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Aug 86 Morning Edition p 4

["Guests of Greece" -- IZVESTIYA headline]

[Text] A delegation from the USSR Supreme Soviet, which is led by R.-B. I. Songayla, vice president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and visiting here at the invitation of the Greek Parliament, has met and held talks with the leadership of this country.

During its conversations with Khristos Sartzetakis, president of the Hellenic Republic, Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou and Parliament Chairman Ioannis Alevras, which took place in a warm atmosphere, notes were compared on a wide range of international problems, most notably the issues of nuclear disarmament, the situation in the Middle East and the Mediterranean, and the Cyprus problem.

Much attention was paid to further developing Soviet-Greek relations. The Greek leaders spoke highly of the Soviet Union's peaceful foreign policy, making special note of its latest proposals for removing the threat of a nuclear war, made in a statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Khristos Sartzetakis stressed that the initiatives had produced the broadest possible response among the Greek people. He said there was much in the efforts for peace that united Greece and the Soviet Union and the Greek and the Soviet people.

Anreas Papandreou described the latest Soviet proposals as "highly important". "This has moved us, both the government and the people. We would like to hope that despite the initial negative reaction, Washington will realize the importance of this proposal and give a positive response to it," he said.

Ioannis Alevras also put a high value on the Soviet Union's peace initiatives.

He said its activites for peace had won the broadest support among the Greek people and in the Greek parliament.

The Greek leaders also expressed this appreciation for the Soviet Union's stand for a just Cyprus settlement, which was reaffirmed by the Soviet delegation during the talks here.

The delegation from the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, for its part, spoke highly of efforts by Greece to strengthen peace, in particular in the framework of the Delhi Six.

It was noted by both sides that the people of the Soviet Union and Greece were linked by traditional bonds of friendship, which had deep historical roots. A desire was voiced to further develop Soviet-Greek relations for the benefit of peace and progress on earth, an important contribution to which was made by interparliamentary relations between the two countries.

Delegation Departs

LD251658 Moscow TASS in English 1641 GMT 25 Aug 86

[Text] Athens August 25 TASS -- a delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet, who stayed on an official visit to the Republic of Greece at the invitation of its Chamber of Deputies, left Athens for Moscow today. The delegation, led by Vice-President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet R.-B.I. Songayla, was seen off by President of Greece's Parliament Ioannis Alevras, other officials.

Speaking at Athens airport to Soviet and foreign journalists, the head of the Soviet delegation said that meetings and conversations with President of the Republic of Greece Khristos Sartzetakis, Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou, President of Parliament Ioannis Alevras, leaders of the main political parties were friendly, frank and efficient.

He noted that Greece's foreign policy activities for peace, including those within the framework of the Delhi Six, are in tune with the Soviet peace initiatives. R.-B.I. Songayla wished the friendly Greek people peace, happiness and prosperity.

Vice-President of the Parliament of Greece M. Stafanidis said, that the visit of the delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet was "very important in the progressive development of Greek-Soviet relations". "We, the Greeks, are confident that the visit will promote further development of friendship and mutual understanding between our peoples", he said.

COMMISSION REVIEWS GREEK ECONOMIC, INDUSTRIAL TIES

LD261316 Moscow TASS in English 1303 GMT 26 Aug 86

[Text] Moscow August 26 TASS -- The condition of and prospects for trade between the USSR and Greece, progress in the fulfilment of the long-term program of economic, industrial, scientific, and technological cooperation in 1986-1988 and other questions are on the agenda of the 5th session of the Intergovernmental Soviet-Greek Commission for Economic and Industrial Cooperation which has opened here today. The Soviet delegation to the session is led by Nikolay Komarov, first deputy minister of foreign trade, and the Greek delegation by Ioannis Papantoniou, first deputy minister of the national economy.

The leader of the Soviet delegation noted in his speech the successful growth of the mutual trade turnover in 1985, the broadening of the range of commodity exchanges and the diversification of their forms. The Soviet-Greek trade turnover rose by 6.4 percent over the previous year to the level of almost 730 million rubles. The Greek exports to the USSR soared by 30 percent, making bilateral trade better balanced.

New forms alongside conventional ones, such as Soviet technical assistance to Greece in the construction of power plants and in the building of an alumina factory, are growing more important. A deal was concluded late last year to the value of over 65 million rubles under which Greek shipyards will build four refrigerator ships for the Soviet Union.

"Greece is an important and reliable partner, cooperation with which is becoming more and more fruitful, stable and large-scale," Nikolay Komarov said.

DANISH DELEGATION VISITS SUPREME SOVIET

LD252318 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 25 Aug 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A delegation of the Folketing, Denmark's parliament, headed by its president, Jakobsen, which is in our country on an official visit, today visited the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The struggle for peace has been and remains the most urgent task of the Soviet state, said Comrade Voss in greeting the guests. The decision of the USSR to extend its moratorium on nuclear explosions until 1 January, he noted, has become a new important step toward solid peace.

The need for parliamentarians of all countries -- regardless of their social or political system -- to intensify joint efforts to prevent a new war and by all possible means to contribute to stopping the arms race was expressed at the meeting.

The president of the Folketing of Denmark spoke in favor of the further development of interparliamentary links between the two countries in the interests of strengthening cooperation, trust, and mutual understanding between the Danish and Soviet peoples, and in the interests of the cause of peace in Europe and on the whole planet.

Demichev Receives Group

LD261521 Moscow TASS in English 1501 GMT 26 Aug 86

[Text] Moscow August 26 TASS -- Petr Demichev, an alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and a first vice-president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, today received in the Kremlin a delegation from Denmark's Folketing (parliament) led by its chairman Svend Jakobsen.

During the conversation, which passed in an atmosphere of good-will and frankness, the Danish guests were acquainted with the decisions of the 27th Congress of the CPSU and the Soviet view of the international situation. In this connection Petr Demichev explained to the Danish parliamentarians in detail the substance of the latest foreign policy initiatives of the Soviet Union, a suggested program for fully scrapping all nuclear weapons by century's end, and the concept of comprehensive security set forth in the policy report to the 27th party congress.

The delegation's attention was called to the August 18 statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on Soviet television and the new political initiative of the USSR announced there -- the extension of a unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions till January 1, 1987.

When the Soviet approach to the problems of nuclear disarmament was being explored, the Soviet side stressed the need to prevent outer space militarization and observe the earlier signed agreements to limit nuclear-missile arms. In this context emphasis was laid on the importance of ending all nuclear explosions which the Soviet Union has not conducted for more than a year now.

It was pointed out that the Soviet initiatives in the field of nuclear-missile disarmament have been supplemented with detailed and substantial proposals for conventional arms.

On the whole, the Soviet side said, the realities of the present-day world are such as give no state the right to shun resolving fundamental issues connected with the very existence of civilization.

Some issues of Soviet-Danish relations were also discussed. Both sides expressed satisfaction with their development and agreed about the need and usefulness of continuing regular parliamentary contacts between the USSR and Denmark in the interests of strengthening trust and broadening Soviet-Danish cooperation in concrete fields.

SEMINAR DISCUSSES FINNISH TRADE, ECONOMIC TIES

PM261214 Moscow TRUD in Russian 21 Aug 86 p 3

[Own correspondent V. Kopytin dispatch: "To Seek New Forms of Cooperation"]

[Text] Tampere, 20 Aug -- Tampere, where an international trade fair is being held, has been the venue for another significant event in Finland's economic life. A "Seminar on Trade With the USSR" has been held here with the participation of more than 300 representatives of the country's business circles, Soviet foreign trade organizations, and joint Soviet-Finnish firms and companies.

"Trade with the USSR is of great significance for Finland's economy," R. (Taynio), governor of the Hame Administrative Region, where the city of Tampere is situated, said at the seminar. "Without it, our country would have great problems in the employment sphere."

In his speech Finnish Foreign Trade Minister J. Laine pointed to the special political and economic significance of trade relations between East and West in general and between Finland and the USSR in particular. He used the example of the country's economy to show the total groundlessness of the allegations that are still current in certain Western circles that East-West trade benefits only the socialist countries. "There must be no place in world trade for any restrictions or impediments," the minister said.

The speeches of the Finnish minister and other seminar participants voiced concern at the complexities in trade relations between our countries that have recently arisen owing to sharp fall in oil prices on the world market. For energy sources form an important part of Soviet exports to Finland. Both Finnish and Soviet seminar participants voiced confidence that these difficulties will be overcome. Many useful recommendations were voiced during the seminar itself to equalize the trade balance between the partners, and opinions were expressed on the need to increase imports of Soviet goods to Finland. "This year we are doing a lot of work on increasing imports from the USSR," Minister J. Laine declared.

Describing in his speech the prospects for the USSR economy's development of the 12th 5-Year Plan, Ye. Pitovranov, chairman of the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry Presidium, emphasized the need to seek new forms of trade cooperation between the USSR and Finland. Among them he named expanding exports of Soviet equipment to Finland, involving Soviet organizations in the construction of industrial projects in Finland and in third countries, and expanding production ties between Soviet and Finnish enterprises.

(Kh. Khaavisto), chairman of the Finnish-Soviet Chamber of Commerce, pioneer of economic ties between our countries, and holder of the "Badge of Honor" order, said in conversation with TRUD's correspondent:

"Finnish-Soviet trade and economic cooperation rests on a long-term basis. Work on intensifying sales of Soviet export products in our country and increasing Finnish firms' demand for Soviet goods, particularly machinery and equipment, is of decisive significance for preserving and increasing the level of trade reached. The plans for the development of the USSR's national economy open up new opportunities for Soviet-Finnish cooperation."

DEMICHEV, LIBYAN DELEGATION DISCUSS GLOBAL ISSUES

LD261643 Moscow TASS in English 1614 GMT 26 Aug 86

[Text] Moscow August 26 TASS -- Alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first vice-president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Petr Demichev received in the Kremlin today a delegation of the General People's Congress of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, led by assistant secretary-general of the General People's Congress, 'Abd al-Raziq al-Sawsa'.

An exchange of opinions was held in the course of the friendly talk on topical international problems and questions of bilateral relations. The attention of the guests was drawn to the USSR's new important political initiative set forth in the August 18 statement of General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev. The Libyan side highly appreciated the foreign policy course of the Soviet state, its peace initiatives aimed at eliminating nuclear weapons, preventing the arms race from spreading to outer space and at establishing a comprehensive system of international security providing for a political settlement of regional conflicts in different parts of the world.

The Soviet and Libyan representatives expressed serious concern over the tense situation around Libya, a result of the militaristic course of the United States and its imperial policy of neoglobalism. They firmly denounced this policy of imperialist circles of Washington which arbitrarily announces these or other areas of the world a sphere of its "vital interests" and which exerts military, political and economic pressure on independent Asian, African and Latin American states.

'Abd al-Raziq al-Sawsa' expressed profound gratitude to the Soviet Union for the invariable and disinterested assistance to his country. Both sides expressed confidence that the visit of the delegation would help strengthen the relations between the supreme organs of power of the two countries and further consolidate friendship and cooperation between the peoples of the USSR and Libya.

On the same day chairman of the Soviet Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, deputy chairman of the Parliamentary Group of the USSR Avgust Voss met with the delegation of the General People's Congress of Libya. Taking part in the talk were chairman of the Soviet-Arab section of the Parliamentary Group of the USSR Boris Kravtsov and also secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah M.H. Chaaban.

The Libyan guests visited the V.I. Lenin Mausoleum and laid a wreath there. They also laid a wreath to the Unknown Soldier's Tomb at the Kremlin Wall.

SYRIAN-LIBYAN STATEMENT CONDEMNING U.S. CITED

LD261538 Moscow TASS in English 1524 GMT 26 Aug 86

[Text] Damascus August 26 TASS -- U.S. imperialism and Zionism are the main factors causing the preservation of tension in the Middle East and the threat to universal peace. This is stated in a pressward statement on the results of the visit to Libya of Hafiz al-Asad, president of Syria, and his talks with Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution.

The statement emphasized that solidarity of all the progressively-minded forces with the struggle of Arab nations was the guarantee of the inevitable failure of the U.S. and Israeli plans of the establishment of their domination over the Middle East.

According to the statement, during the talks the sides analyzed the situation in the Middle East and ways of offsetting the intrigues of U.S. imperialism and Zionism in the region. They denounced the U.S. attack on Libya and emphasized that any act of aggression against Libya or Syria would be regarded by them as an aggression against both countries.

The statement urged to consolidate the unity of Arab nations and to develop the relations of friendship and cooperation with socialist countries and with all the progressively-minded forces.

U.S., ISRAEL DISCUSS LAVI FIGHTER PRODUCTION

LD261655 Moscow TASS in English 1448 GMT 26 Aug 86

[Text] Washington August 26 TASS -- Talks are under way in the Pentagon with an Israeli delegation of military experts who specially arrived in the U.S. The sides are discussing plans of producing the most up-to-date Israeli "Lavi" fighter plane which is being developed with active material and financial assistance of the U.S. military-industrial complex.

According to news agencies, the U.S. almost fully financed the development and creation of the prototype model of the "Lavi" fighter plane which cost 1.2 billion dollars. Israel is going to adopt for its army 300 planes of this type. According to experts of the Pentagon, each of them will cost some 22.5 million dollars.

RAZUMOVSKIY WELCOMES ALGERIA'S MESSAADIA

LD261720 Moscow TASS in English 1541 GMT 26 Aug 86

[Text] Moscow August 26 TASS -- Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau, head of the standing secretariat of the Central Committee of the National Liberation Front party of Algeria, arrived for a brief visit in Moscow today.

At the airport Mohamed Cherif Messaadia was mee by secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Georgiy Razumovskiy, alternate member of the CPSU Central Committee, deputy head of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee Karen Brutents.

Charge d'affaires ad interim of the Algerian People's Democratic Republic in the USSR A. Dahmoush was among the welcoming party.

DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER PETROVSKIY VISITS BAGHDAD

For Iraqi reportage on Deputy Foreign Minister Valdimir Petrovskiy's visit to Iraq, including his meetings with Iraq President Saddam Husayn, see the Iraq section of the 27 August Middle East & Africa DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

U.S., ISRAELI NEAR EAST POLICIES VIEWED

PM251327 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Aug 86 Second Edition p 3

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA observer V. Vinogradov "Military Political Review": "The Smoldering Fuse of Conflict"]

[Text] Israeli Defense Minister Rabin has made a routine tour of a number of captured areas of South Lebanon. Having inspected military units and acquainted himself " on the spot," so to speak, with the result of their bloody deeds, the head of the military department stated that Israeli forces "will continue to actively combat terrorists." Since Tel Aviv pins this label on any Lebanese or Palestinian who will not accept Zionist tyranny, it is easy to imagine what this means in practice. Reports from the Near East provide evidence of the increasing escalation of the Tel Aviv leaders' state terrorism in Lebanon in recent days.

On Monday a new act of armed aggression was perpetrated against that sovereign state. Israeli aircraft hit the suburbs of Sidon and the Palestinian refugee camps there. The barbarous actions by the aircraft were accompanied by massive shelling on Sidon by warships. Civilians, including women, children, and old men, were victims of the piratical raid. The next day Israeli aircraft subjected a number of populated areas in Al-biqa' valley to a devaststing bombardment. Once again there were numerous casualties among the civilian population. In "justification" of this piracy the Israeli command stated that "several dozen more terrorists" had been destroyed.

The Israeli aggressors and their assistants from the "Army of Southern Lebanon" are carrying out daily punitive raids against South Lebanese civilians. The scenario for these criminal acts is always the same. First the occupiers surround a selected settlement and then the assault begins. Thugs, armed to the teeth, burst into the homes of totally innocent inhabitants. Shots are fired and there are even explosions -- the aim is to destroy the homes of those who were attempting to resist the Zionist brigandage. An hour or an hour-and-a-half later, and after making a number of arrests, the goons leave the settlement, by which time it is usually in the grip of a "sudden" conflagration.

While again making tormented Lebanon the target of its air attacks and punitive raids, Tel Aviv has also resumed its extensive campaign of threats against Syria. This time the campaign has been backed up by major military exercises organized on Syria's occupied Golan Heights. Mechanized, armored, artillery, and other units and the Air force are involved in this overtly provocative show of strength. Moreover, as an official press statement circulated in Israel said, one of the main aims of the exercises was to "rehearse methods of chemical warfare."

Observers have shown particular interest in this fact. In fact, in the past this information has never been made public because the Israeli leadership places it in the "top secret" bracket. Observers reason that the aim of this Tel Aviv "revelation" is to try to intimidate Syria and make it abandon its consistently principled course of opposing American-Israeli expansion in the Near East.

It must be noted that the latest outbreak of Israeli militarist activity in the Near East followed immediately upon U.S. Vice President G. Bush's trip to the region during which he visited Israel, Jordan, and Egypt. During his stay in the Zionist state the Washington emissary made it clear that the White House is sticking firmly to the course of actively encouraging Tel Aviv's annexationist aspirations vis-a-vis its Arab neighbors. [paragraph continues]

Bush was present at a demonstration by Israeli Air Force fighter-bombers built with U.S. dollars and using U.S. technology and he toured an Israeli commando training center. Later, addressing the Knesset (Parliament), Bush announced that Washington was prepared to grant Tel Aviv most-favored-nation status in the military sphere -- in matters of arms supplies, military technology, and joint scientific research work.

During his trip Bush did not conceal the fact that he had not brought with him any new ideas on ways to bring about a Near East settlement. It was clear from his statements that the U.S. stance continues to be based on the "Reagan plan." As is known, this plan leaves aside the problem of the total withdrawal of Israeli forces from all Arab territories seized by Tel Aviv in 1967 and does not envisage safeguarding the national rights of the Arab people of Palestine, but banks instead on a revival of the Camp David process. That is why this U.S. version of a Near East "settlement" was rejected by practically all the Arab states soon after it appeared.

Bush's trip was merely another attempt by Washington to push through its anti-Arab plan. The White House saw the fact of the recent meeting between israeli Prime Minister Peres and King Hassan II of Morocco as an opportunity to do this. these contacts, which gave rise to condemnation practically throughout the Arab world, inspired Washington. And how! The United States has long been pushing the Arabs to have separate talks with Israel. It was in this context that Bush conducted his talks in Jordan. But his efforts were a flop. In Amman the U.S. vice president's proposal was rejected. Morever, whereas Jordanian officials were relatively restrained in their comments on this fact, the press gave Washington's Near East policy the rebuff it deserved. The newspaper JORDAN TIMES said that the United States was flogging a dead horse with its idea of direct talks. "Direct talks with Israel are an instrument of blackmail," the influential paper AL-RA'Y wrote. "They lead nowhere."

Yes, what we are seeing are the obvious impasses of Washington's Near East diplomacy. this is also recognized in the U.S. capital. That is why it was decided to supplement the diplomatic pressure applied by Bush with major military maneuvers in the Mojave Desert (southern California). Observers stress that the natural conditions in this desert are in many ways like the Near East. Marines and airborne troops, tanks, and aircraft participated in the maneuvers. The very fact that the maneuvers, codename "Gallant Eagle-86," were carried out by the U.S. Central command (Centcom) is indicative in itself. Indeed, it is Centcom that is in charge of the interventionist Rapid Deployment Force which, according to U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger, are "automatically targeted" at the Near East and Persian Gulf.

For 10 days clouds of sand, pierced by bursts of artillery fire and exploding missiles, hung above the Mojave Desert. In accordance with the maneuvers' scenario, dozens of heavy transport aircraft arrived in waves in the prearranged area, thousands of parachutes opened in the sky, and, as the press noted, immediately after landing the parachutists joined the fighting: At the same time, landing craft had reached the coast and begun to unload combat equipment and marines whose job was to capture strategically important "enemy" points. According to AP, the maneuvers' scenario even included the "secret transfer to the battle areas" of a special team of journalists who would cover the U.S. forces' actions as they actually happened in the manner required by Washington.

As a Pentagon spokesman stated, during "Gallant Eagel-86" they "rehearsed collaboration among all categories of forces in carrying out an offensive operation in a near East hot spot." [paragraph continues]

In other words, the 35,000-strong force was rehearsing an invasion of foreign territory. All this is part and parcel of the U.S. Administration's aggressive plans within the framework of the strategy of "neoglobalism." "The White House is preparing for a large-scale armed attack on a Near East country," was the Syrian paper AL-THAWRAH's comment on Washington's organization of the "Gallant Eagle-86" maneuvers.

G. Bush's trip and the Pentagon's overtly provocative maneuvers in the Mojave Desert show very clearly that the U.S. Administration's approach to Near East problems remains unchanged -- imperialist and hegemonist. As before, it is characterized by constant pressure on the Arabs and all-around support for Zionist Israel -- the ally in the "strategic alliance." It is by virtue of this that the fuse of a near East conflict continues to smolder, threatening to blow up the whole region at any moment.

But there is another approach to the Near East problem. The approach of the USSR and the other socialist countries. It is the USSR's firm belief that a just and all-embracing settlement of the Near East problem must be based on the following principles: The Arabs must be given back all the land seized by Israel in 1967; the Arab people of Palestine, whose sole legitimate representative is the PLO, must be guaranteed the inalienable right to self-determination and to the creation of their own independent state on land which will be free from Israeli occupation; all the states of the region must be guaranteed the right to a secure and independent existence. These are the basic pinciples on which, the majority of Arab states believe, a Near East settlement must be effected.

Past experience demonstrates most clearly the utter futility and, moreover, the pernicious nature of attempts to solve the Near East problem by imposing on the Arab countries separate deals with israel. The only correct and effective way of effecting a cardinal solution of the Near East problem is collective efforts involving all interested parties, including the PLO. This requires the convening of a special international conference on the Near East.

The Soviet Union's consistent and principled stance on the Near East question was reaffirmed this week during Sudanese Prime Minister Sadiq al-Mahdi's talks in Moscow. As N.I. Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, stressed in his spech at a Kremlin dinner in his honor, there is an urgent need to put a stop to all the crimes being committed against the Arab peoples in the Near East.

The smoldering fuse of a Near East conflict must be extinguished!

FPMR ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON HAEBERLE KIDNAPPING

PY260359 Moscow Radio Magallanese in Spanish to Chile 0200 GMT 24 Aug 86

[Excerpt] The Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR] has reported that it has seized important documents from kidnapped Colonel Mario Haeberle and that the documents will be released to the public.

The FPMR released a communique stating that the colonel's kidnapping has made the members of the Armed Forces, especially the Army, sit up and think, and that it has made them understand that if they continue with their repressive actions they will be punished.

The communique also says that decisive moments are approaching when the military must decide whether to follow General Pincochet into the abyss or abandon him to join the people. The FPMR released Col Haeberle because it believed that the main objective of the kidnapping had been fulfilled. The FPMR communique states that the exhortation made by the Church also influenced their decision to release him. The communique added: The calls of the Catholic Church should be heeded by the dictatorship, just as we welcome them, because in this way many patriots could be saved from the dungeons and torture.

The FPMR has delivered the first document on the comments made by General John Galvin, the U.S. Armed Forces Southern Command chief, during a secret meeting with the deputy chiefs of the Chilean Armed Forces held at the U.S. Embassy in Santiago. [passage omitted]

SUPREME SOVIET EXCHANGES CABLES WITH ECUADOR

PM261043 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Aug 86 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Exchange of Telegrams"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has sent a telegram to Leon Febres-Cordero Ribadeneyra, president of the Republic of Ecuador, sending congratulations and wishes for success to the president and the Ecuadoran people on Ecuador's national holiday, Independence Day.

In a reply telegram the president of Ecuador, on behalf of the government and the Ecuadoran people, expressed deep gratitude for the congratulations and, for his part, wished the Soviet people prosperity and well-being.

The telegrams express confidence that the friendship and mutually useful cooperation between the two countries will continue to develop on a constructive basis for the sake of the Soviet and Eucadoran peoples and in the interests of normalizing international relations and strengthening peace.

VILLAGE CONSTRUCTED FOR CHERNOBYL EVACUEES

PM261230 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 17 Aug 86 p 4

[Correspondent S. Luzgan "Reportage": "In a New Place"]

[Text] Kiev -- Evacuees from the 30 km zone around the Chernobyl AES arrived here, in Makarovskiy Rayon, as in many other Kiev Oblast rayons, 3 months ago. How could they best be fixed up? Be accommodated, cordially welcomed, and provided with work? This was the paramount concern of everyone. Much has been and is continuing to be done.

You cannot build a new village, according to the usual concepts, even in a year. But those concepts are not on today's scale. A wonder-settlement has grown up in an inconceivably short time not far from Lyudvinovka, on the lands of the Gorkiy Kolkhoz there. It has been named Ternopolskoye -- in honor of those who erected it. No more than 50 days have passed since construction workers who came here from Ternopol Oblast drove in the first peg. And now people are moving into 150 farmstead houses.

I called at one of the houses on Ternopolskaya Street. I was greeted by S. Bruzhina, chairman of the trade union committee of the "Chervonyy Prapor" Kolkhoz on Terebovlyanskiy Rayon, and L. Tsal, leader of a kolkhoz construction workers team. They were preparing to present bread and salt and the houses keys to the new residents. The apartment was clean, cozy in a homey way, and furnished.

"We have done everything to ensure that the new residents are content," Stefaniya Iosifovna said. "We have built as though for ourselves."

"Even somewhat better," L. Tsal added with a smile.

Whichever dwelling you enter, you hear everywhere sincere words of gratitue to those who have made the quick move possible.

In the center of the village we met A. Tovstanovskiy, chairman of Ternopol Oblispolkom. It was just the moment to ask some questions:

"How was the village's construction organized, and what helped to commission the houses so quickly?"

"First of all, we defined the maneuvering of operations," Aleksandr Ivanovich said. "How were we to work, using which forces? We decided to support the initiative of our own rayons, kolkhozes, and agricultural construction subdepartments. Each collective constructed one specific project, using local materials. There are now 145 brick and 4 prefabricated farmstead houses. As you see, they acted quickly and harmoniously."

A rally was held to mark the mass move. On the construction workers' behalf T. Druzhko presented the new residents of Ternopolskoye with a symbolic key, wholeheartedly saying:

"Good people, we have endeavored to do and have done all we could. I have been building for 20 years, but I cannot recall ever having constructed an entire village in a month. Be happy, dear people!"

Ternopolskoye is the first of 52 village being constructed in Kiev and Zhitomir Oblasts for the evacuees from the Chernobyl AES zone. By 1 October 7,250 farmstead houses with outbuildings and 200 sociocultural projects will have been commissioned.

"Construction workers from all the Ukrainian oblasts," V. Sinko, chairman of the Kiev Oblast Agroindustrial Committee, reported, "are participating in creating housing and sociocultural and consumer projects for the evacuees from the AES zone. Komsomol members in the RSFSR, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Latvia, and Lithuania have sent 40 construction detachments. Some 2,500 apartment blocks and many sociocultural and consumer projects are already ready."

Construction workers in Cherkassy, Vinnitsa, Dnepropetrovsk, and other oblasts of the republic are preparing keys for new residents.

NUCLEAR SCIENTIST LEGASOV ON CHERNOBYL

DW261201 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 25 Aug 86 pp 104-105

[Interview with Soviet Nuclear scientist Valeriy Legasov, member of the USSR government committee investigating the Chernobyl disaster and co-author of the report on the accident -- inteviewer's name and date and place of interview not given]

[Text] SPIEGEL: Mr Legasov, what was the purpose of the experiment which led to the terrible accident?

Legasov: Every nuclear power plant, including Chernobyl, has a reserve energy system, a diesel generator, which is supposed to supply power to the reactor in the event of an accident. It must start working in a few tenths of seconds. To be quite sure, the personnel wanted to check whether those tenths of seconds would be sufficient to restart the turbines following a reactor failure. That experiment, which in my view should not have been carried out in a power plant...

SPIEGEL: ...But where?

Legasov: Well, in the factory, by the engineers who build such generators. The test could also have been simulated. The experiment is not so terribly dangerous, provided the reactor is shut down, so that there is no steam. Then the electrical engineers can look at whatever they want. The tragedy was that the personnel did not shut down the reactor but blocked the automatic systems, which should have functioned during the experiment.

SPIEGEL: Why was the emergency cooling system also switched off?

Legasov: It is a complicated electrotechnical system. The diesel generator and the emergency cooling systems are on one and the same circuit in an accident.

SPIEGEL: It did not work for 12 hours.

Legasov: The personnel did that consciously, according to plan. The people suspected that the reactor would fill with water during the experiment. When the diesel generator is in operation, that means an accident, which requires the switching on of the emergency cooling system. They switched it off. That was a mistake. Then they forgot for several hours to switch it on again.

SPIEGEL: They forgot it?

Legasov: Yes, they forgot it.

SPIEGEL: Just like that?

Legasov: They thought the electrical engineers had the situation under control. Because the reactor had run down to zero, they assumed that the danger of radioactive contamination did not exist any longer. All their attention was focused on the accuracy of the electrotechnical procedure.

SPIEGEL: What defects in the reactor system led to the accident?

Legasov: According to the instructions interrupting the safety systems is prohibited. It requires the approval of no fewer than three people at different levels. However, it was technically relatively easy for plant personnel to switch off one safety system or another. There should have been a complicated procedure for each individual system, involving different codes and ciphers. That would have been better to keep things under control.

Second, the safety systems were not switched on automatically quickly enough after power had risen unexpectedly. Our regulations only provided for more or less normal conditions or more or less normal accidents. The quality of the safety measures was not sufficient.

SPIEGEL: Will the construction of that reactor type be changed now, and will an additional concrete casing be built?

Legasov: Quite a few additional safety measures are being introduced for the RBMK-type reactor. Others are being developed. The cupola is a problem. Our wear-resistant leakproof boxes, which cover dangerous points of the reactor where radioactive substances could escape during a normal accident, is equivalent to the Western concrete cupolas.

SPIEGEL: However, the roof covering the reactor was destroyed. Radioactivity was released and contaminated vast regions.

Legasov: The pipelines are only partially covered by the box. Everyting depends on the nature of an explosion. Given the power of the explosion, a concrete cupola would even have had negative effects. It could have been destroyed and could have damaged the adjoining blocks. In that case the dimension of the accident could have been even larger. Therefore, we should consider building even stronger cupolas than those that exist in the West. However, it is a problem of economy and expediency. Perhaps it would be cheaper to build nuclear power plants underground.

SPIEGEL: All the same, will there be concrete cupolas in the Soviet Union following Chernobyl?

Legasov: To improve the safety or reactors, we should not try to reinforce the structure. The point, rather, is to change the physical properties in the reactor zone: radioactivity should not be allowed to escape at all. We will have to do research on that.

SPIEGEL: Why is it taking so long to encase the destroyed reactor in concrete?

Legasov: I think we are progresing extremely quickly. Imagine the reactor and the immense radioactivity at its core. To be able to bury it, we require an accurate analysis of the destroyed plant. That takes time. That grandiose building must hold for hundreds of years.

SPIEGEL: PRAVDA criticized the shortage of concrete.

Legasov: There are certainly reasons for dissatisfaction in several fields. However, regarding the analysis, the planning, and the beginning of encasing the reactor in concrete, work is advancing acceptably fast. Part of the preparatory work is already done. Where previosuly we could only pass at great speed in protected vehicles, now we can walk around freely and talk. Achieving that in such a short time, is a success.

SPIEGEL: Would you permit another Chernobyl-type reactor ever to be built again?

Legasov: Prior to that terrible experience, I was never an advocate of that type of reactor. From the start I did not like it, for a number of physical and chemical reasons. Too much graphite and other possibly dangerous substances are accumulated there. However, many of its elements will also be contained in future types of reactors. I admit that several elements are excellent. I am saying that especially following the accident.

It is a different thing that the reaction time of the safety systems was not sufficient, that such a stupid act was possible, and that an engineer could switch off what he wanted to.

SPIEGEL: Do you believe that an accumulation of unfortunate circumstances caused the accident?

Legasov: Yes and no. A thorough analysis of the accident shows that if just one of those minor elements had not happened, there would have been no accident. On the other hand, the accident shows that engineers are wrong to omit even a hardly likely succession of events that might lead to an accident from their calculations.

SPIEGEL: That was what Western experts criticized about Soviet nuclear power plants. Events that are most unlikely to happen have not been adequately considered in the safety systems.

Legasov: We will have to see which aspects of that criticism are legitimate and which are not. We will have to examine it.

However, there is yet another problem. The safety systems of nuclear power plants and other fields are organized so that first, there is the project, then the weak spots appear. To abolish them, additional safety systems are created. The moment comes when the large number of safety systems again constitute a new danger of the whole project.

SPIEGEL: What conclusions would you draw?

Legasov: One lesson that Chernobyl has taught us is this: We should design systems that are automatically switched off as soon as there are any deviations from the given parameters. In Chernobyl we slipped on a banana peel, so to speak. We hurt ourselves. The pain forces us to reflect.

UKSSR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS REPRIMANDS MINISTERS

AU261328 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 19 Aug 86 p 2

[Unattributed report: "In the Ukrainian Council of Ministers -- To Hasten Restructuring, To Improve the Style and Methods of Work"]

[Text] Recently, the Ukrainain Council of Ministers Presidium listened to reports by Comrade V.I. Slinchenko, minister of consumer services; Comrade V.D. Ploshchenko, minister of housing and municipal services; and Comrade Yu. A. Bondar, minister of local industry, on the state of restructuring undertaken by the ministries in the style and methods of work in light of the decision of the 27th CPSU and Ukrainian Communist Party Congesses, and of the successive CPSU and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee plenums.

The adopted decision notes that the aforesaid ministries are slow in restructuring their work in line with the present requirements, and the measures taken by them in this direction have not been very effective. No radical changes for the better have taken place in the activity of ministerial boards, administrations, and sections. A brisk organizational activity has frequently been substituted by armchair and bureaucratic methods of leadership, by issuing many documents. The practice of petty tutelage over enterprises and organizations continues, and a significant amount of information is demanded from them.

Much time is being wasted in organizing and holding conferences, sessions, meetings, and seminars. Many leaders of enterprises and organizations are summoned to them. Field trips made by responsible workers are frequently ineffective and to not always seek to give practical assistance to enterprises. The level of executive discipline is still low, and there is no clear-cut system of control over the implementation of party and government decisions. The working people's letters are handled unattentively.

Such a style of work in the ministries adversely affects the activity of dependent enterprises and organizations, and the fulfillment of the production plans by branches.

The Ukrainian Ministries of Consumer Services and of Local Industry have failed to make full use of the new management conditions to adopt the achievements of scientific-technological progress, to increase the volume of production and to improve the quality of consumer goods and services to the population. The Ukrainian Ministry of Housing and Municipal Service pays no proper attention to issues concerning the repair and exploitation of housing resources, raising the efficiency of electric city transport, the economy of fuel, water, heat, and gas.

The ministeries do not make a profound economic analysis, lack planning in setting long-term problems concerning the development of branches, and are still poor in their work to eradicate mismanagement, book-doctoring practices, embezzlement of socialist property, bribery, and other abuses.

Comrade V.I. Slinchenko, minister of consumer services, has been reprimanded for failing to implement the decision of the Ukrainian Council of Ministers on restructuring the style and methods of work, to ensure improvements in the activity of the ministerial apparatus, and to take resolute measures to protect socialist property.

Comrade V.D. Ploshchenko, minister of housing and municipal services, has been reprimanded for failing to take measures necessary to eradicate armchair and bureaucratic methods of leadership in the work performed to repair and maintain housing resources, and to use fuel, water, heat, and gas in a thrifty way.

Comrade Yu. A. Bondar, minister of local industry, deserves a punishment for the shortcomings incurred, but in view of the fact that he has been working in this office a comparitively short time, his attention was called to the insufficient responsibility of workers of the ministry's central apparatus and leaders of dependent enterprises and organizations for improving the style and methods of work, and for reducing paper work; to the low executive discipline, as well as to the existence of many enterprises which systematically fall short of the target for the output of consumer goods.

The Ukrainian Council of Ministers has obligated comrades V.I. Slinchenko, V.D. Ploshchenko, and Yu. A. Bondar in the shortest time possible to radically restructure the work of the ministers in light of the requirements of the April 1985 and the June 1986 CPSU Central Committee plenums, as well as the July 1986 plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee.

The ministers have been requested to raise exactingness to workers of the ministerial central apparatuses and to increase the latters' responsibility for the state of affairs in branches, and for providing conditions necessary for labor collectives to work in a highly productive way; to abolish without delay unlawful accounts, to cut short the practice of summoning workers to board sessions, and to be more operative in giving assistance in the field. The need was pointed out to wage a resolute struggle against mismanagement, extravagance, and the embezzlement of socialist property, and to bring persons guilty of this to stern account. Instructions have been given to take steps to reinforce individual production sectors at enterprises and organizations with leading cadres.

RAZGULYAYEV ON RESISTANCE TO CHANGE IN KIRGHIZIA

PM261500 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Aug 86 Second Edition p 2

[Own correspondent Yu. Razgulyayev report under the rubric "Party Life: How Restructuring Is Progressing": "Difficult Renovation"]

[Text] For many people in Talas Oblast the very modest results with which the "Krasnaya Zarya" Kolkhoz finished the last 5-year plan were quite unexpected.

They were accustomed to the farm setting the tone in socialist competition, the mastery of new techniques, and the cultural development of the countryside. In the 11th 5-Year Plan "Krasnaya Zarya" seemed to get its fair share of banners and other awards. But each year the farm found its work harder and more of a strain. Then a sharp decline generally set in. This customarily pacesetting farm failed to meet its target for milk and wool sales to the state and was one-third short of its meat target.

A particularly alarming situation arose in sheep-raising. Murrain and other diseases carried off one-fourth of the stock there in a single year. G. Volf, chief of the sheep-raising shop, was dismissed and Sh. Toktogulov, manager of the livestock unit, was severely punished. But the situation in this laggard section is not improving.

"And it won't improve until we stop this 'tail-chasing,' Kolkhoz Chairman V. Chemerisov said.

The "tails" expression is a familiar one understood by any chairman or director in Talas Oblast, and not just in Talas Oblast: People in Kirghizia well remember recent times when a "resounding figure" announced from a rostrum immediately became a target that was not subject to discussion and a main goal to be sought regardless of cost. [paragraph continues]

This happened particularly with the sheep population. The former republic leaders, in defiance of the opinion of scientists and practical workers, "pledged" to increase the output of mutton several times over in a matter of years. They chose what appeared the easiest way to achieve this, namely, increasing the number of sheep. But it turned out to be a dead end.

Despite his resistance, V. Chemerisov was nevertheless obliged to increase sheep numbers to 27,000, although there was no feed base, pasture, or accommodation available for them. Attempts were made to lessen the consequences of this reckless target, but the economy cannot be deceived. Whereas a few years ago one animal produced 25-16 kilos of meat per annum, last year the figure was just...7 kilos.

The chase to report victory led to Talas Oblast sovkhozes and kolkhozes losing around 1.5 million sheep -- the equivalent of two annual plans for mutton production -- in the 11th 5-Year Plan. Lamb production is no longer even enough to replenish the herd.

"We marked time for 5 years," T. Amanbayev, shepherd on Kirovskiy Rayon's "Rossiya" Sovkhoz, bitterly told an oblast party conference. "That is the price we have had to pay for our leaders' passivity and lack of principle."

Communists then spoke particularly pointedly about parasitism and the desire to grab as much as possible from the state.

Indeed, Talas Oblast, which was formed in 1980, long received quite considerable aid, and the credits and grants were very eagerly accepted from the state. In Leninpolskiy Rayon, for example, 5 out of 8 farms took out loans of between R5 million and R9 million, and for the oblast as a whole the total was around R150 million. Annual agricultural output, however, was almost R40 million less. That was the heavy legacy with which Kirghizia's youngest oblast entered the 12th 5-Year Plan.

It has to be said that the fresh wind of renewal that has blown since the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum has also helped the inhabitants of Talas Oblast in many respects. Particularly those who refused to brook complacency and a desire to cover up shortcomings and varnish reality. At the report and election meetings and party conferences sharp, impartial criticism was already directed at leaders for whom a desire to please the boss rather than the interests of the work in hand was uppermost.

Communists in Manasskiy Rayon, for example, expressed a lack of trust in virtually all members of the party raykom bureau. First Secretary O. Aytkulov was dismissed for "serious shortcomings in his work." The composition of party committees in Kirovskiy, Toktogulskiy, and a number of other rayons has changed considerably.

Party organizations and farms are now mostly headed by honest, enterprising Communists who care about work. There is V. Melnichenko, for example, the new first secretary of the Manasskiy party raykom. His predecessors reduced sheep-raising to a mere trickle. It would have been possible to ask for adjustments and a slight postponement in order to raise the farms from their "prostrate position." But Valeriy Nikolayevich decided to do battle, to fight for every line and figure in the plan.

I visited the farms and spoke to the Communists. A way out had been found. Neglected tobacco barns had been standing there for almost 20 years. Barn, incidentally, is just a conventional description. In fact, durable buildings made of slag concrete or brick had been left empty. From every available rostrum the rayon's former leaders had ceaselessly asked for money to build new livestock units, ascribing the regular failure to meet plan targets to a shortage of premises. [paragraph continues]

Today, however, the inhabitants of Manasskiy Rayon have, without special outlay, adapted these "barns" as piggeries and duck sheds.

Matters have started moving. The cheap livestock units will soon begin producing their first output.

However, the burden accumulated through the tenacious habit of parasistism cannot be easily jettisoned at a stroke. This is felt particularly strongly in Kirovskiy Rayon. It became the habit there to write off thousands of hectares of perished wheat. There was always an explanation ready to hand: drought and lack of irrigation water. Yet dozens of wells lay idle in the fields.

Substantial changes were made to the customary picture this year. The Kirovskiy party raykom decided to focus attention on combating the water shortage. Leninopolski Rayon's inhabitants are persistently seeking out the forms of autonomous financing and ways of enhanching shepherds' accountability for safeguarding their stock best suited to them... Nevertheless it has to be acknowledged that the Talas Oblast inhabitants have merely taken the first few steps along the long and difficult road toward overcoming stagnation and eliminating the mistakes of past years.

The burden of past blunders and the inertia of bad management still remains great. The last overwintering period was a particularly clear and bitter reminder of this. It was unusually mild and warm in the Talas Valley. According to estimates, more feed than usual was procured. But animal losses through disease nevertheless grew at a threatening pace. By the beginning of the summer oblast kolkhozes and sovkhozes had lost almost 100,000 sheep and 1,350 cattle.

At a session of the party obkom bureau some raykom secretaries tried in the old way to put all the losses down to objective difficulties.

"However, the main cause of our failure," E. Duyseyev, first secretary of the Talas party obkom, self-critically acknowledged, "should be sought in a lack of due exactingness toward those who stubbornly seek to outside explanations of their own blunders..."

Well said! I was immediately reminded of a meeting I had had with O. Baizbekov, first secretary of Talasskiy party raykom. The conversation was about why a rayon special farm -- a farm for the intensive fattening of cattle -- was producing virtually the lowest weight increases. The "fattened" bullocks there barely reach 270 kg.

"There is not enough feed, too little irrigated land, and spare parts for repairs are not forthcoming," the secretary reeled off in customary fashion.

Yet we were standing in a new complex, commissioned just 2 years back, on which the state had spent almost R4 million. The feed shop there had not operated since the very outset, an enormous workshop building was full of broken windows, and behind the fence lay machinery which was already out of commission. Yet no one, including the obkom, has called O. Baizbekov or A. Omuraliyev, director of the special farm, to account for this disgrace.

Incidentally, when the obkom does resort to stern measures, it often turns out to be merely a semblance of sternness. Dismissed cadres still often seem to wander from one leadership post to another.

Thus, D. Riskulov brought the "Talas" Sovkhoz to the brink of disaster, and received...a promotion. [paragraph continues]

He was appointed chairman of the Talas Rayon Agro-Industrial Association [RAPO]. Now the whole rayon has gone downhill, but the "unsinkable" Riskulov has resurfaced. Since the criticism voiced at a Kirghiz Communist Party Central Committee Plenum and in the republic press, he has continued to lead a group concerned with procurement, storage, and processing of agricultureal products inside the RAPO.

For the party obkom and its secretary, B. Doolbekov, this method of "cadre training" is by no means an exception. A. Kamchibekov, director of the most backward sovkhoz in Manasskiy Rayon, was likewsie put forward for the post of RAPO chairman. And when his nomination was rejected by the raykom, that very important body remained without a leader for more than 18 months.

The republic organizations set no example either. The activity of O. Aytkulov in his post as first secretary of Manasskiy Raykom, led, as we know, to the collapse of many farms and to overreporting and misrepresentation.

"He did not even answer to us Communists," A. Kirichenko, member of the party raykom and milkmaid at the "Talas" Kolkhoz, said indignantly. "Five days before the conference he was quietly removed. Doubtless to be saved for a new leadership post...

"I have to say that at the time I thought the fears exaggerated: What could a former secretary severely reprimanded for such unsavory actions aspire to? But before 6 months passed Aytkulov also resurfaced...as chief of the Kirghiz SSR State Agro-Industrial Committee Administration for Stockraising Intensification and Output Procurement. There's 'restructuring' for you..."

No, the process of renewal under way in Talas Oblast and throughout the republic is not going easily or simply. Both inertia and covert resistance have to be overcome. But nevertheless the postplenum change shave opened up much more scope for resourceful leaders like V. Chemerisov, chairman of "Krasnaya Zarya" Kolkhoz, and Hero of Socialist Labor A. Nurzhanov, chairman of Lenin Kolkhoz, an innovators like T. Amanbayev, outstanding shepherd on the "Rossiya" Kolkhoz. They, rather than those who unthinkingly carry out any "instructions," are setting the tone in the oblast.

But the difficult start to the 5-year plan is also a real fact, which means that Talas Communists still have a good deal to do if they are to completely get rid of the burden of inertia and achieve the desired acceleration.

PERM OBKOM CHIEF RESPONDS TO SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA

PM260835 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 15 August 1986 First Edition carries on page 3 under the heading "On Prejudice" a feature consisting of a 1,500-word letter from B. Konoplev, first secretary of Perm CPSU Obkom, and a 1,000-word "editorial office commentary" on it. Konoplev's letter is in reply to an article published in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA for 16 June 1986 under the heading "Where Are You?" in connection with the case of I.M. Troitskiy, former director of the Kama cable plant, which had criticized references to the case in a book written by Konoplev. Konoplev defends himself by admitting to an inadvertent inaccuracy in the book, while maintaining that on the whole the criticism of Troitskiy was justified. He reports that in discussing the SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA article, the Perm obkom bureau adopted a resolution "acknowledging the importance and urgency of the subject raised in the report 'where are you?'," and noting that Konoplev himself verbally "expressed regret" to Troitskiy about the mistake, but upholdng Troitskiy's dismissal from his post.

The editorial commentary which follows consists of an attack on Konopolev's letter and the Perm obkom's handling of the case. The commentary accuses the obkom of "prejudice" in assessing Troitskiy's activity and points to the dangers of "lack of self-criticism." The commentary concludes: "It is hard to decide what the party obkom's response reflects: ignorance of the realities, or conscious distortion of them. But neither can be regarded as a principled attitude toward criticism in the party press."

ROLE OF CRITICISM IN STATE DEVELOPMENT DISCUSSED

LD251635 Moscow TASS in English 1544 GMT 25 Aug 86

[Text] Moscow August 25 TASS -- TASS news analyst Boris Prokhorov writes:

Perhaps never before in the USSR everything done and achieved has been viewed so critically as now. Hardly a day passes without criticism, at times very acute, being made at workers' meetings and meetings of executives, appearing on newspaper pages, being made in broadcasts of the television and radio.

And this is understandable for a task of great importance is now faced by the country: to speed up considerably the social and economic development of soceity on the basis of achievements of scientific and technological progress. Much must be altered and perfected for this which, in its turn, is unthinkable without a critical assessment of what has been achieved.

People in the Soviet Union justifiably take pride in one of the most important achievements of socialism: complete employment of the population. There have been no unemployed in our country for over 50 years now. But the problem of employment, too, is now viewed critically. People are dissatisfied with how the workforce is used and wish it to achieve a greater effect.

The USSR has become the first country in the world where free medical aid has been introduced for all and in all cases, where there exists free education at every level, including university education, where there is an all-embracing system of state pensions. We take pride of all this, but we also sharply criticise the shortcomings of education in our country in order to make it better. Reforms are made in the general educational and specialized schools. The pension system is being supplemented and developed. And the same take place in every sphere. If one looks through Soviet newspapers for a day or two one would see the following thing. PRAVDA indicates serious shortcoming in the organizational structure of the agro-industrial complex. IZVESTIYA exposes profound flaws in the management of construction in the Soviet Union. SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA sharply criticizes formalism in organizing a voluntary society for a sober way of life. The newspaper carries an open letter in which the minister of the industry of means of communication Eduard Pervyshin is asked for how long the enterprises that are controlled by the ministry will continue manufacturing inferior TV sets.

The newspapaers are now a true rostrum of the public opinion. It is difficult to describe more or less important questions and problems on which there is no debate in the press. There are no themes in the USSR now that are "taboo". No ministers and departments, republics and cities are outside criticism. There are no categories of managerial workers whose actions cannot be publicly discussed.

Very popular is the follow-up of newspaper reports containing answers to criticism and announcing measures taken on the basis of critical items that appeared in the press. The CPSU Central Committee in the recent months adopted decrees more than once on the basis of materials of the press.

PETROLEUM MINISTRY ANNOUNCES PLAN 'ACHIEVED'

LD211521 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 21 Aug 86

[Text] An important piece of news has come from the central office of the USSR Ministry of the Petroleum Industry. In the past 24 hours the industry has achieved the planned figures, having extracted 1,622,800 metric tons of oil and gas condensate, which is 500 metric tons greater than the daily task.

As of today, the country's oil industry will be working ahead of schedule. The pace of work that has been taken up guarantees that. Collectives on the West Siberian fields are now competing to cope completely with the debts permitted to arise since the start of the year in the near future. Not just the Tyumen oilmen, but also their colleagues from Mangyshlak, Stavropol, the Ukraine, Tataria and Bashkiriya are taking part in this competition.

PRODUCTION OF EQUIPMENT FOR NEW REACTOR REPORTED

LD232205 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 23 Aug 86

[From the "Vremya" Newscast Report over video by N. Chebotarev from the nuclear power engineering plant in Volgodonsk]

[Text] This gigantic new plant is gradually filling up with the noise of work and is being made operational. And this equipment -- large lathes with computer programming, finishing centers, and unique automatic lines -- is either already operating or is being assembled and will soon start to work here.

The production of this giant is also unique. Basically, this is the future of our nuclear power engineering industry. [video shows more shots of equipment, operators at control panels, then cuts to an interview with Deputy General Director of the plant V.N. Zabara -- identified by capitioned]

[Chebotarev] Viktor Nikolayevich, [Words indistinct] may one consider the start of production of a new kind of reactor?

[Zabara] Well, we are now in the fourth plant, it is one of the last, basic production plants of our work, where according to plan, the manufacture of a new kind of reactor is envisaged -- as you describe it. This is a fast-neutron reactor with a capacity of 800,000 kilowatts. Today we have started to manufacture the large-scale fitting out of this new kind or reactor. In general, in nuclear engineering there are high quality demands made on all products, but the evaluation norms have been greatly increased and the demands made of this reactor have been greatly increased. For this reason, it is natural, that is, we are also undertaking special preparatory work.

A cooperation agreement was signed the other day between the collective of Atom-mash and the Beloyarsk AES, which the Atom-mash workers will supply with the unique equipment.

PAVLOV REVIEWS GRAIN HARVEST PROGRESS STATISTICS

PM260834 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Aug 86 Morning Edition p 1

[O. Pavlov "Agricultural Review": "An August With Plenty of Work"]

[Excerpt] According to statistics from the USSR Central Statistical Administration, as of Monday 11 August 50.9 million hectares of grain and pulse crops (excluding corn) had been cut in the country and 47.4 million hectares had been threshed -- that is, 93 percent of the cut area.

A total of 71.1 million hectares of sown and natural grass crops have been cut. Some 60.7 million metric tons of hay have been procured -- 75 percent [of the plan]; 59.3 metric tons of haylage -- 90 percent; and 46.9 million metric tons of straw, 4.3 million metric tons of dried feed, and 23 million metric tons of silage.

From days of old the people have given August various names: the month of the sickle, of gathering, and of laying in and, in the Vladimir region, the month of plenty -- that is, when everything is in abundance. And so it is; there is plenty of agricultural work in the last summer month. At present the harvest is in progress in central Russia and the Baltic region, is coming to an end in the Ukraine and Belorussia, and is beginning in the east of the country. Winter crops are already being sown in the RSFSR and the preparation of the soil for the next harvest is developing on an increasingly broad scale. Intensive work is also in progress in feed crop areas. Vegetable, fruit, and potato procurement is gathering pace. The Ukraine, North Caucasus, and Central Chernozem Region have begun harvesting corn for silage.

Over the past week 9.8 million hectares of grain and pulse crops have been cut; this is 1.6 million hectares more than in the previous week. The increase has mainly been provided by farms in the Non-Chernozem Zone and the Volga Region.

The Non-Chernozem Zone has cut 2.6 million hectares of grain in a week, whereas it cut only 3.6 million hectares over the period from the beginning of the harvest through 4 August. After a slow start, the kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Bryansk, Orel, Ryazan, and Tula Oblasts and the Mordovian and Mari ASSR's have now increased their pace. At the same time, farms in Kostroma, Yaroslavl, Ivanovo, and Kirov Oblasts and the Tatar ASSR still appear unwilling in their involvement in the harvest. What is more, in the Tatar ASSR and Kirov Oblast there is a long gap between the harvesting and threshing. The RSFSR's Central Region has had good weather for a long time now and so reference to unfavorable harvesting conditions are totally inappropriate. Everything depends on organization, and it is not as it should be everywhere.

Take Gorkiy Oblast. By 2 August all of its rayons had begun harvesting. Agroindustrial specialists made the following calculations: Each combine would be responsible for 135 hectares. Given the present yield, the harvesting of winter crops could be completed in 7-8 days and that of spring crops in 12-15 days. The grain should therefore be threshed by this Saturday. These are the calculations. And in practice? By 11 August they had threshed 519,000 hectares of the total 1.1 million hectares of crops. It is quite clear that the farms will not make the deadline set by the agroindustrial specialists. And then the rain will begin, you see, the harvest will drag on, and losses will increase. [passage omitted]

ANDREYEV CONSIDERS PROGRESS OF HARVESTING WORK

PM261210 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Aug 86 First Edition p 1

[O. Andreyev "Agricultural Review": "To Preserve What Has Been Grown"]

[Excerpts] The USSR Central Statistical Administration reports that by 18 August grain and pulse crops (excluding corn) had been cut on 58 million hectares -- 53 percent of the area -- and threshed on 54.2 million hectares. some 63.9 million metric tons of hay, 63.4 million metric tons of haylage, and 4.6 million metric tons of grass meal have been procured. The harvesting of potatoes, vegetables, and fruits and preparations for the next harvest are continuing. Fall plowing has been carried out on 12.3 million hectares, tilling of fallow land is being completed, and winter crops are being sown.

Strenuous work is being done in the grain fields. The mass sale of grain to the state is taking place. The motherland's granaries are being filled daily. The working people of Stavropol and Krasnodar Krays and Belgorod, Orel, Kursk, and Lipetsk Oblasts are making a great contribution to this. Successfully fulfilling the first commandment, they have efficiently organized the mass delivery of grain to elevators. At the same time, kolkhozes and sovkhozes in a number of oblasts are evading sales of grain to the state and stockpiling it on threshing floors. There are many such farms in Saratov, Penza, Poltava, Sumy, and certain other oblasts. Thus, farms in Saratov Oblast's Balashovskiy Rayon had sold only 23,000 metric tons of grain by the second half of August. At the same time, more than 100,000 metric tons of grain has piled up of threshing floors. Many kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Ulyanovsk, Ryazan, cherkassy, and Rovno oblasts have threshed several times more peas than the planned volume of sales to the state, but hardly any peas are being delivered to elevators. This is a gross violation of the plan.

In recent days the front line of the harvest has advanced into eastern parts of the country. Feed procurement is continuing everywhere. The time to lay down silage has come. Green crops are flowing from the fields on many Ukranian farms. More than 11,000 comprehensive mechanized detachments are doing the work. Wide use is being made of such progressive methods as the procurement of moist corn grain and combined and conserved silage with ears. At the same time, there are delays over cutting grasses in Kurgan and Perm Oblasts.

Too little feed has been laid in store on Moldavian and Uzbek SSR kolkhozes and sovkhozes. Of course, the drought which affected some of the land there took its toll. but that is not all. A number of Uzbek farms have poorly organized the grass harvest and violate the grass cutting times. They can still make up for lost time and lay in more coarse feed and silage.

Rural working people now have more potential for harvesting and preserving everything that has been grown. For the first time the entire production process from the field to the plant is in the hands of a single boss -- the agroindustrial committee. This is particularly important for work with industrial crops such as sugar beets, flax, cotton, and sunflowers. Skillful use is being made of the new potential in many regions, and cooperation among all subdivisions is efficiently being arranged.

Long-stemmed flax, for example, is being harvested better than in past years. It is being harvested at a high rate on Ukrainian, Belorussian, and Kalinin and Gorkiy Oblast farms. [passage omitted]

FEDOROV ASSESS MID-AUGUST HARVEST PROGRESS

PM261044 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Aug 86 Morning Edition p 1

[S. Fedorov "Agricultural Review": "Harvesting and Sowing Simultaneously"]

[Text] According to the USSR Central Statistical Administration, as of Monday 18 August grain and pulses (excluding corn) had been cut on 58 million hectares in the country or 53 percent of the total area, and threshed on 54.2 million hectares or 93 percent of the cut area. Corn had been harvested from 4.8 million hectares or 23 percent of the area sown. Flax had been pulled on 465,000 hectares or 47 percent of the area. Winter sowing was under way on farms in seven union republics.

Active feed procurement continued. By the aforementioned date 63.9 million metri tons of hay or 79 percent of the plan had been procured, 63.4 million metric tons of haylage or 96 percent of the plan had been laid in, 4.6 million metric tons of grass meal and other dehydrated feed had been produced, and 35 million metric tons of silage had been laid in.

In August all types of different jobs coincide in the country's field's as it were. There is grain harvesting and flax pulling, vegetable picking and early potato lifting, and in northern and eastern rayons the optimum periods for wintering sowing have either arrived or are about to begin. Probably no other month in the agricultural calendar knows such pressure of work. And it is necessary to hurry. Fewer and fewer fine days remain before the fall bad weather sets in.

During the past week the grain harvest front has moved further north and east. The harvest is gathering momentum in the Urals and the West Siberian and East Siberian Regions of the RSFSR, and cutting of grain has started in southern rayons of Kustanay, Turgay, Tselinograd, and Pavlodar Oblasts. The harvest promises to be good here, but ripening is delayed -- the cool summer has failed to provide the necessary warmth. The grain is ripening a week or 10 days later than usual, which leaves less time for cutting and threshing. Agricultural workers understand this well and are therefore preparing themselves carefully for the harvest.

The whole country is giving eastern regions considerable assistance in the harvest with machinery and cadres. Suffices it to say that more than 15,000 combine operators from the RSFSR, the Ukraine, Belorussia, Moldavia, and the Baltic republics have arrived in northern oblasts of Kazakhstan alone. This has made it possible to man harvesting and transport detachments and links with machine operators for 2-shift working. Many of them will operate under the terms of collective contracts and compete for the highest yield of threshed grain.

However, this kind of assistance makes great demands on local agroindustrial organs. The work and cooperation between all the components of the harvest process must be organized and coordinated so as to avoid breakdowns and idle time. Many farms have set themselves the task of coping with the grain harvest within the shortest possible time. If this is achieved, losses will be avoided and everything that has been grown will be preserved. Real opportunities for this exist.

In the Non-Chernozem Zone the grain harvest is in full swing. True, during the last few days rain has affected its progress. During the past week grain has been cut on 1.3 million hectares here (just over 9 percent) and threshed on 1.4 million hectares. This pace can hardly be considered satisfactory, espcecially as only just over half the sown area has been harvested. [paragraph continues]

At the same time we have received many reports indicating that machinery is idling because of breakdowns and the daily output per combine on some farms is less than 3-4 hectares. Farms in Perm, Kostroma, and Yaroslavl Oblasts are especially behind with the grain harvesting. Yet the slow pace of the harvesting may mean losing part of the relatively good [neplokhoy] harvest that has been grown here.

Farms which have completed the grain harvest continue selling grain to the state. Farmers in Odessa Oblast have delivered more than 700,000 metric tons of strong and valuable wheat, which is almost double the amount envisaged in the plan. Lipetsk Oblast farms report the fulfillment of their grain sales pledges. Grain growers in Orenburg Oblast, where the harvest is in full swing, have begun selling grain toward their second million metric tons. However, not everywhere do grain sales proceed in an organized fashion. Thus, for instance, at the Sharanskiy and Michurinskiy sovkhozes in Sharanskiy Rayon in Bashkiria up to 1,000 metric tons of peas have accumulated at threshing floors at each farm and only 10-20 metric tons have been dispatched to elevators. The sales are also being delayed at many other farms, despite the fact that this can spoil the grain, which is frequently stored in the open.

The hot weather in the south of the European part of the country and the Lower Volga Region has speeded up the ripening of vegetables, cucurbits, and fruits. The mass harvest of tomatoes, peppers, aubergines, and marrows and their delivery to the unionwide network is under way here. By the beginning of the second 10 days of August 122,000 more metric tons of vegetables and 82,000 more metric tons of fruit had been purchased than by this date last year.

As I was told at the USSR Gosagroprom, following Moscow's example, fruit and vegetable bazaars and markets are organized weekly in Tbilisi, Yerevan, Kiev, Voroshilovgrad, Donetsk, Minsk Brest, Stavropol, Rostov-na-Don, Saratov, and other cities, with the active participation of kolkhozes and sovkhozes. This has made it possible to considerably improve supplies of vitamin-rich products to the population.

In the Non-Chernozem Region, in the Urals and in West Siberia the most advantageous time for winter sowing has come. By 18 August winter crops occupied 3.6 million hectares in the RSFSR. This is slightly more than last year. But by no means are all farms managing to complete this work during the optimum periods. Thus in the Volga-Vyatka Region it is time to complete the sowing, but winter crops occupy only 36 percent of the area allocated here. And what is even worse is that one-fourth of the area allocated to these crops has not even been plowed yet. Delays may result in lower yields next year.

Work is continuing on the feed fields. Farms in Moldavia and southern and central rayons of the RSFSR have begun harvesting corn for silage. Second and third mowings of grass are being carried out. All crop farming byproducts must be utilized to build up the feed stocks. The creation of the preconditions for normal livestock wintering remains one of the main tasks both in August and in September.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FOR 25-26 AUG REPORTED

LD270126 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 25-26 August. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

25 August

Mass harvesting of potatoes has begun in Tuva earlier than usual.

About 3,000 hectares of the autonomous republic's productive lands are set aside for potatoes. (0030)

Altay machine operators have cut grain on one-third of the area sown to grain, 1.5 million hectares, and the harvest is gaining speed there in the sunny weather. Threshing of rye and bean crops is nearly complete and the sowing of winter crops is nearing an end. The main focus is now on harvesting spring wheat. The state has helped Altay with harvest equipment and vehicles. However, it is difficult to make productive use of it due to a shortage of oil for combines, tractors and large-load capacity Kamaz vehicles. The Altay grain growers are also being badly let down by the collectives of Noginsk and Saransk works which have failed to provide the necessary spare parts. (1300)

The grain harvesting in Kirgizia has moved from the hot valleys to the cooler mountain areas. Already 70 percent of the whole area has been harvested. On the average, the grain farmers of the mountain region are threshing 24 quintals of grain from each hectare. (1330)

The majority of farms in Moldavia have fulfilled their plans for supplies of vegetables to all-union stocks. The republic's vegetable farmers have pledged to produce over 1,300,000 metric tons of vegetables this year. (2130)

Grain is being harvested in Tselinograd Oblast. Grain crops have been reaped on the first 200,000 hectares. In the southern districts, the grain is being threshed. (2230)

Mass sowing of winter wheat began today in Orel Oblast. Mironovskaya-808 and Zarya varieties are being planted. (2230)

26 August

The comprehensive testing of mechanisms and manipulators has begun at the new pressing and welding building of the Kishinev tractor works. Improved tractor cabins will be manufactured here. Incidentally, the Kishinev Tractor T-70-S lost its quality mark because of its inadequate cabin. The Odessa and Volgograd design institutes are helping the tractor works set up the new production section fitted with modern equipment. (0204)

Half a million hectares of grain have been harvested in Altay Kray. (Moscow TV 0400)

About 750,000 metric tons of newly harvested grain have so far been delivered to the state by the agricultural workers of Bashkiriya. This is approximately one-third of the plan. (0801)

The grain harvest has begun in Turgay Oblast where grain covers over 2 million hectares. (1000) Mass harvesting of corn and sunflower for silage has begun in Mordovia where hay procurement is also continuing. (1100)

Belorussia is making its second cut of feed grasses. About 10 quintals of feed units have now been laid in per head of cattle. Another 1 million metric tons of hay and almost 1.5 million tons of haylage must be laid in by the end of the season, while in a number of rayons in Brest, Mogilev and Grodno Oblasts reserves are not being fully used and rates for feed procurement have fallen. (1300) Harvesting of corn for grain has started in Northern Uzbekistan, on farms in Karakalpak ASSR and Syrdarinsk Oblast. Harvesting is now underway in all the climatic zones of the republic. The harvest has already been collected from one-third of the fields sown. In total 150,000 metric tons of grain have been harvested. (1904)

FURTHER COVERAGE OF AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCE

LD261422 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1030 GMT 26 Aug 86

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Tasks in building up production of grain have been examined at a zonal conference in Dnepropetrovsk. Those taking part in it examined successes and failures in mastering intensive technologies. By the example of the front-ranking farms they have studied ways of raising the fertility of soils and increasing yields of agricultural crops, and defined specific measures to raise the stability of grain farming, to increase, the production of grain in the Ukraine and in Moldavia through the further intensification of the industry.

Those taking part in the conference visited the fields and facilities of farms in the Dnepropetrovsk Oblast and the Dnepr Scientific and Production Association where they looked at a range of machines and studied experience in the cultivation of crops using intensive technology. During the visits to the farms great attention was paid to the procurement of fodder and preparations for winter in livestock farming.

Taking part in the work of the conference was Comrade Nikonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. [video shows group of about 20 to 30 men walking around farm facilities; the Dnepr scientific and production association; Nikonov can be identified in a group of people shown walking]

WORK TO REPAIR TORNADO DAMAGE CONTINUES

LD261743 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1530 GMT 26 Aug 86

[Text] Our correspondent reports from Penza Oblast: The work on eliminating the consequences of natural calamity -- the tornado that last week hit the territory of three rayons -- is continuing. According to preliminary calculations, material loss is approximately R8 million. More than 400 installations, including homes, were either fully or partially destroyed. Dozens of kilometers of electrical and radio and telephone lines were put out of action. Teams from the neighboring Saratov Oblast came to help restore electric power plants. Help is also coming from Moscow Oblast and from the Ukraine. Housing for those who remained homeless is being constructed at faster rates. Animal breeding facilities are being restored. As was reported to our correspondent in the Penza hydrometeorological service, tornados of such strength, when the wind speed reached 70 meters per second, were only observed on the oblast's territory twice in this century, at the end of the thirties and at the end of the fifties.

KAZAKH IMPLEMENTATION OF FOOD PROGRAM CRITICIZED BY OPSU

LD270843 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 27 Aug 86

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee has examined the question of work by party, local soviet and economic organs of Kazakhstan in fulfilling the tasks of the food program and guaranteeing accelerated and steady development of livestock breeding. The decision which has been adopted notes that despite great natural economic opportunities in Kazakhstan and the significant material, technical and financial aid to agriculture form the state, livestock breeding is being conducted at a low level.

The tasks of the food program for producing meat, milk and other products are not being fulfilled. Extensive methods of developing livestock breeding have taken root in the republic.

The stagnation in the industry is a consequence of the fact that the Communist party of Kazakhstan Central Committee and the Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers allow serious miscalculations in the leadership of this industry. Many leaders of ministries and departments and of party, local and economic organs in the oblasts and rayons show inerita in resolving the fundamental problems of developing livestock breeding.

The document outlines steps to rectify the situation which has come about.

The CPSU Central Committee decision will be published in full in the press.

TESTING OF NEW HARVESTER BEGINS IN KAZAKHSTAN

LD261456 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 26 Aug 86

[Text] Testing of the new wide-cut harvester "Step" has started near Pavlodar in Kazakhstan. Production of these machines is defined in the basic guidelines for the country's economic and social development. The new harvesters cut grain three times more quickly. Good working conditions are provided for the machine operators, with the cabins equipped with comfortable seats and air conditioning. Windows that can easily be darkened ease the bright summer sun. When working normally the machine replaces several combines. The "Step" is unique in many respects. The universal, high-productivity machine was made in less than a year with the involvement of more than 100 enterprises and many ministries and departments.

Unfortunately, the acceleration which was achieved through great effort is being lost in the final stage. The quality of the manufacturing enterprises' work is low. At the same time representatives of the Krasnoyarsk Combine Works, which produces unreliable units for the "Step", are not present at the tests; nor, are the representatives of other enterprises for whom there have been many complaints present. The collective of the Pavlodar Tractor Works association has not completed assembly of the first consigned of "Step" sets. A further 450 sets are due to be produced by the end of the year. It is very important that the necessary changes are promptly made to the unit so that reliable machines that the farmers are impatiently awaiting might go out onto the country's fields next year.

IMPACT OF FIELD PROTECTION STRIPS NOTED

LD261436 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1030 GMT 26 Aug 86

[From the "Novosti" newscast; video report by station correspondent I. Petkov, identified by screen caption, from Shishkonskiy Sovkhoz in Moldavia showing farmland, irrigation equipment and irrigation being carried out]

[Text] [Petkov] The Shishkanskiy Sovkhoz is one of the few that retain the old field protection strips and plant new ones. Within them orcards and vineyards bear better fruit and without noticeable differences from year to year; and the grain yields are greater as well.

[Unidentified farmer] This kind of field protection and the intensive technology which we have introduced this year for the first time has enabled us to produce 70 quintals of winter wheat on average from each hectare.

[Petkov] But the neighbors achieved a third less wheat under identical conditions but with the field unprotected against the dry wind. There is no need to prove the value of wooded strips to arid Moldavia. So how did it transpire that nearly 15,000 hectares of planted areas of this type have been destroyed in recent years? There are many subjective reasons; when some boss concerns himself with the momentary advantage and increases the area planted at the expense of field protection plants, and often he is not the one who saw to it that they were created. But most of the strips turned out simply to be in the way when irrigation equipment was set up. The wide-reach Fregat installations did not fit into the gap between the wooded areas, for the shortest Fregat -- the 12-tower version -- occupies an area with a diameter of approximately 650 meters. The others are wider. Obviously this is forcing people to ignore the instructions issued in 1972 by the USSR ministers of land reclamation and water resouces and of agriculture regarding the rules for implementing agricultual and forestry land-improvement works in the country. Among other things, it determines that the distance between field protection strips must not exceed 600 meters. Compare this with the minimum reach of the Fregat installations which is 50 meters greater than that distance. This kind of contradiction is dooming hundreds of kilometers of wooded field protection strips.

UZBEKISTAN HARVEST AFFECTED BY 'SEVERE DROUGHT'

LD262043 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 26 Aug 86

[Text] Farmers in Kashaka-Darya oblast of Uzbekistan are waging a struggle for the harvest in conditions of severe drought. Our correspondent (Mukhtar Ganiyev) reports:

It is still the height of summer in Uzbekistan, and here on the Karshi Steppe gardens and parks have turned yellow. There was a warm winter without precipitation, a spring with no rains, and the evergreen foothills, pastureland and 20,000 hectares of cereal crops on dry-farming land have burnt up over an enormous area.

I travelled hundreds of kilometers today through the Guzarskiy, Kamashinskiy, Chirakchinskiy, Dekhkanabadskiy and Kasanskiy rayons. This region has been particularly severely affected by the drought. The once full rivers Kashak-Darya and Urya-Darya, which are the main water sources of these places, are now small, meandering streams. The Pachkamar and Chimkurgan reservoirs are empty. According to calculations by specialists, farmers will not obtain the intended harvest from one third of the oblast's cotton plantations. But there is no panic among the people. Normal work is taking place on the fields and on stockbreeding farms.

The State Agro-Industrial Committee in the oblast is restructuring its production in this situation. It has been decided that, by raising yield levels in unaffected areas, state plans will not be disrupted. This is what (Aman Suyarovich Suyarov), chairman of the State Agro-Industrial Committee in Kashaka-Darya oblast, said about this.

[Begin Suyarov recording] The State Agro-Industrial Committee has organized, first and foremost, round-the-clock delivery of machinery, drinking water and essential foodstuffs to the inhabitants of these rayons. We have sunk more than 200 artesian wells over 2 months, but this water is not enough. It has been decided that there will be (?no losses) of livestock. People are putting the water from the artesian wells on the fields of fodder crops. The majority (?of the livestock) has been driven away for high-mountain pasturing. With the help of the country's farmers, people are doing everything possible in these rayons to eliminate the consequences of the drought. [end recording]

SALYUT-7 COSMOS-1686 CHANGES SPACE ORBIT

LD231127 Moscow TASS in English 1121 GMT 23 Aug 86

[Text] Moscow August 23 TASS -- TASS correspondent reports for Mission Control Centre:

The "Salyut-7" - "Cosmos-1686" orbital complex on August 22 changed its orbit. Its parameters are:

"The maximum distance from the surface of the earth -- 492 kilometres,

The minimum distance from the surface of the earth -- 474 kilometres,

The period of revolution -- 94 minutes,

The inclination -- 51.6 degrees.

The correction of the orbit was made with the help of the propulsion units of the station and the satellite ship "Cosmos-1686."

The Mission Control Centre is processing the incoming telemetric information.

NEW FUEL FROM WASTE FOR POWER PLANTS

LD261936 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 26 Aug 86

[From the "Vremya" Newcast: V. Pidchenko video report]

[Text] Kharkov oblast power industry workers are successfully preparing themselves for the forthcoming winter. This is Zmiyev GRES, the Ukrain's heat and power plant, with a capacity of 2400 megawatts. Last winter, due to irregular coal deliveries, frequently it was not on full load. This had negative consequences for the work of its numerious customers. Now, for the first time in the world, a high-ash anthracite, simply, slurry, began to be used here as fuel. This is none other than waste from concentration plants, a low-grade material of which several million metric tons already have been stockpiled on the Donbass slag heaps alone.

The technology for burning such waste is fairly complicated. It has been worked out by the specialists from the all-Union Thermal Technology Institute, from the Soyuztekhenergo Production Association and by the Ukrainian power industry workers. It makes it possible to save very large quantities of the fuel that is in short supply. An opportunity has come to create the essential reserves of high-grade coal at the situation's yard by using slurry such as this during the summer months. The calculation here is that during the winter time, the GRES can operate in a stable manner and to full capacity.

[A.G. Navrotskiy, director general of the Kharkovenergo Association identified by caption] -- [Begin video recording] It is difficult to overestimate the solution of this question. Last winter, too, we experienced fuel shortages. This year, in view of the Chernobyl AES accident, the role of heat and power electric power stations is seeing us through this winter has been enhanced considerably. Naturally, the process of burning this low-grade fuel is very complicated; the station is not operating on full load.

In order for the station to operate on full load using this coal, we need the speediest possible reconstruction of the electric power station. A whole number of technological problems concerned with the burning of this fuel has already been resolved at our station and at some other Ukrainian electric power stations. We now need only one thing: a decision by the State Planning Committee and the Council of Ministers -- without waiting for the plans for the reconstruction of the entire electric power station -- to commence reconstruction unit by unit, according to the blueprints.

This will make it possible, already during the next year, to increase the burning of these low-grade types of coal and to save quality fuel to an even greater extent so that it may be used by the country's power industry. [end recording]

BRIEFS

COMMUNICATION WITH ASTRON -- The center for space communications located in the city of Yevpatoriya on the Black Sea has conducted another communications session with the Soviet unmanned observatory "Astron," put into orbit more than 3 years ago. Our reporter has been told at the center that "Astron" explored 130 stars and galaxies. It discovered and unusually high content of wolfram and lead in the atmosphere of many stars [Text] [Moscow World Service in English 0700 GMT 19 Aug 86 LD]

LASER CENTER IN TBILISI -- A laser center has been set up under the auspices of the Physics Institute of the Georgian SSR Academy of Sciences in Tbilisi. One of its first developments is a method for machining metal, used for manufacturing cutting tools. It has already been introduced in industry. This production process halves the time spent on machining, and drastically improves quality of output. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0430 GMT 19 Aug 86 LD]

SPECIALIST TRAINING COMPLEX -- In Leningrad a study scientific-production complex has been founded to train specialists in the field of information systems and the automation of research. It has united the creative potential of scientists and teachers from the Ulyanov-Lenin Electro-technical Institute, fellows of the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Information Technology and Computer Science and specialists from the Krasnaya Zarya scientific production association. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1700 GMT 19 Aug 86 LD]